Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

2nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a superb week.

We have had an amazing week at the academy; jammed packed with opportunities for the students. There are various write ups included for you throughout this edition. Sadly, we had to cancel some of our extra-curricular sporting events this week due to the spread of coronavirus cases locally, however Mr Powell, Head of PE has spent this week launching Sports Day in assemblies for each year group; the Houses now get very competitive over the coming weeks. It is one of my favourite days of the year!

It was so lovely to see our new year 6 students and parents via TEAMS on Wednesday evening. Thank you for sparing the time to attend this presentation. The presentation was recorded for those who missed it and a link will be sent out to you. We look forward to seeing the children virtually again on Friday 9th July for their transition experience.

Mr Hollis has spent a long time securing the year 8 Option choices and parents should have received notification of these. Thank you all for working with us on a covid approach to Options this year.

This week we have welcomed Miss Simpson and Miss Radbourne to the academy, new teachers in art/photography and science. We hope that they will be very happy with us.

Miss Simpson

After graduating from the University of Brighton with an MDes in Textiles I worked as a Children's Clothing and Accessories Designer for eight years. My designs were sold in a mixture of independent brands and high street shops such as, M&S and John Lewis. In 2016 I completed a CELTA course and went on to teach English as a foreign language for 2 years in South Korea. Having loved the experience of teaching, upon returning to the UK I trained to be an Art and Photography Teacher. I am excited to be starting at Alcester Academy and becoming a part of the school.

Miss Radbourne

After studying Chemistry, Biology and Psychology at Sixth Form, I completed my degree in Biochemistry at the University of Worcester. I then continued my studies and trained to become a Teacher of Science. Outside of education,

Support Alcester Academy Pta

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

Visit smile.amazon.co.uk

smile.amazon.co.uk

I enjoy walking in the countryside and being outdoors as much as possible, which I think benefits mental wellbeing greatly—something which I am very passionate about. I am so thrilled to be at Alcester Academy, where I can continue my love of science, while supporting pupils to be the best version of themselves!

Sadly, we then say a farewell to Mrs Scott today. Mrs Scott leaves us to have her baby. We wish her the very best and hope to update you with some exciting news very soon! We look forward to welcoming Miss Lewis back on Monday to take Mrs Scott's classes. Mr Rowberry also leaves us today in History. Mr Rowberry has done a tremendous job covering for Miss Bishop during her maternity leave. We can't thank him enough for his hard work and commitment to the school. Mr Rowberry is going on to a teaching role in Kuwait! We are sending him with our warmest regards and a factor 50 sunscreen! Miss Bishop returns to us on Monday following maternity leave with her baby, Harrison.

Year 10 Student Campaigns

Our year 10 School Leader candidates produced excellent campaign videos and voting has taken place. Results are featured on page 9.

End of term trips

At this current point in time, all end of term trips are still running. Warwickshire will update us if this changes. Students will be expected to all wear face coverings on coaches and on rides in theme parks, thank you. Fingers crossed!

Price And Buckland - Uniform

Thank you so much to a parent who wrote to me this week just to let us know that the Price & Buckland sizes for girls certainly are coming up as a little larger than average. This might help you to gauge sizes when ordering online . The school shirts did seem true to size however. This insight is really valuable for us all I'm sure. We are very grateful. This parent did add that the quality of garments has been superb.

Year 10 MFL Speaking exams

Toutes nos félicitations et Herzliche Glückwünsche to our year 10 linguists for their superb work in the recent speaking exams. Mrs Weatherley, Head of MFL is also an examiner for AQA and has spoken extremely highly of the year 10s and their hard work.

School Attendance — up to 1.7.21

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Whole School
95.9%	94.0%	93.2%	91.6%	90.9%

This week's top Tutor Groups

7WI– 98.0%, 8YA – 95.2%, 9TN – 96.5% and 10RO – 97.9%.

Grant Scheme—Free School Meals

The Local Authority will be supporting those families eligible for benefits related FSM again over the summer. A voucher for £93 to cover the summer will be issued as it has done previously. Thanks to Mrs Kirby, our Office Manager for sorting these out for parents.

Coronavirus Updates

Yet again, we remain extremely fortunate not to have any confirmed cases of covid at Alcester Academy. I apologise to those students who have had to isolate as a result of the case on the 202 bus at the weekend. We hope to see you safely back very soon. School transport continues to be one of our biggest headaches. Those buses without seating plans incur complications when we are attempting to secure the close contacts of any positive cases. Please refer to last week's bulletin and school comms to ascertain the arrangements for notifying you as parents of any cases. We also appreciate your support from an internal point of view. At one point this week, we had ten staff out of school with ill health or because of isolation.

Wishing you a lovely weekend. Fingers crossed for the match on Saturday! Will it be coming home I wonder?
Best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Year 10 Careers Super Learning Day

This week, our year 10 students had the opportunity to take part in a workshop that let them experience, and prepare for, the 'working world'. The workshop entailed: applying for a job, writing cover letters, preparing for an interview, and subsequently attending a mock interview.

Our students embraced the day with maturity and enthusiasm as they participated in numerous group discussions and activities. The students realised that the topics discussed will be something they will soon be doing as they begin applying for their post16 choices. This was the aim of the workshop, to be able to equip our students with the necessary resources and skills to help them feel able to enter, not just their post16 choice, but the working world too.

Mrs Hale
Careers Co-ordinator

MFL Idiom of the Week

English: Better safe than sorry
French: Souris qui n'a qu'un trou est bientôt prise
Literal meaning: A mouse with only one hole is caught sooner
German: Sicher ist sicher
Literal meaning: Safe is sure

Linguists of the month

Year	French	German
7	Archie	Poppy
8	Zoe	Stefan
9	Emily	Toby
10	Matilda	Sawyer

Year 10 Army Experience

Our year 10's enjoyed a morning with the Army this week. They had a presentation about different careers in the Army including STEM, and were able to hear first-hand about the experiences of the army officers who visited.

After this they were taken outside for some team building activities and problem solving. The morning was a huge success, and the students really enjoyed the whole experience.

Miss Wincup

YOUNG RSPCA—Competition for students

Whether you're an experienced photographer or a keen beginner, you've entered before or you're not sure where to start, you're in the right place!
The aim of our RSPCA Young Photographer Awards is to encourage an interest in photography and an appreciation and understanding of all the amazing animals around us. It's open to anyone aged 18 or under and all we want is for you to enjoy the process and get creative. Every year we're blown away by the incredible images you send in!

We can't wait to see your entries

Incredibly, the RSPCA Young Photographer Awards is now in its 31st year. In that time, it's grown to become an exciting and high-profile competition. Our panel of judges includes TV's Chris Packham, and winning entries often make it into national media. Lots of our winners have gone on to careers in photography, conservation or animal welfare. It's an opportunity not to miss.
With a range of subject and age categories to enter, there's a chance for everyone to get involved. You can enter multiple categories and submit more than one photo in each one. We give awards for every category and then the judges crown the overall RSPCA Young Photographer 2021. **Could it be you?**

You can enter up to five photos for each of the following categories:

- **Your age category - under 12, 12-15 Years or 16-18 Years**
- **Picture Perfect Pets**
- **Small World**
- **Mobile Phone and Devices**
- **Instagram**
- **Portfolio - in this category you can enter up to three portfolios each made up of five photos, all must be different subjects.**

https://young.rspca.org.uk/ypa/categories
Closing date 16th August 2021

Artwork of the Week

Year 7s are currently working on a self-identity Pop Art unit of work. Sophie has produced this complementary colours example of onomatopoeia!

Outstanding work—*Mr Yarrington*

Beauty and the Beast Auditions

We are incredibly excited to announce that our school show next school year will be Beauty and the Beast.

The school show is open to all students, and we are looking forward to making this show even bigger and better than any in the past.

Auditions for the school show will take place on Monday 12th and Wednesday 14th July during the school day.

For more information and the audition pack, please join the google classroom with the following code. **Ijnzfgs**

Miss Sacco

Year 7 STEM in Action—Demonstration Lectures

Our year 7 students experienced STEM in Action online demonstration lectures this week from Ginny Smith, Greg Foot and Peter Hoare—all eminent scientists. The students were able to fully interact and ask questions along the way.

With Ginny Smith, the students discussed ideas such as: *Ever wondered why your food tastes funny when you have a cold*? *And what happens when you get dizzy*? Students also carried out some activities that tricked their brain!

Greg Foot talked about *Everest Lab* and discussed: *What happens to your body when you push it somewhere it's not built to go – to the top of the world?* His lecture included videos of his trek and how the information will be used for life saving treatments in the future.

Finally we looked at colourful chemistry. In this demonstration lecture Peter Hoare showed us how you can you turn water blue by shaking it. Peter showed the students a catalyst working and explained how fireworks are coloured. The lecture showed how light and perception of colour are fundamental to our daily lives.

Comments from students were:

'I liked how Greg Foot explained his journey on Mount Everest because it was funny, inspiring and exciting. I learnt that beetroot juice contains a chemical which increases the size of arteries so oxygen can spread through the body quicker.'

'I enjoyed doing all the fun and interesting experiments. I have learnt a lot of new facts about the brain and senses. I have also learned about different effective medicines for the body.'

'There has been lots of activities where you can participate. We have learnt, the brain has different sections, if you have a high IQ, it doesn't determine your brain size. When climbing a mountain, beetroot juice can help, the higher the altitude the thicker the air.'

Miss Taylor

Our new Student Leadership Team

Many congratulations need to go to our recently appointed student leadership team.

Head Boy - Louie

Head Girl - Poppy

Deputy Head Boy - Tiago

Deputy Head Girl - Gabi

We can't wait to work alongside you in the new term. These positions are well deserved after years of commitment shown to the school and hard work. Very well done!

Thank you to all of the students who applied. They will become Senior Prefects and part of the student leadership team.

Miss Buckthorp

Head Boy — Louie

Head Girl — Poppy

Deputy Head Boy — Tiago

Deputy Head Girl — Gabi

Year 9 Romeo and Juliet trip

This week, I have been on my first trip with Alcester Academy. I was extremely excited to join year 9 as they visited Studley to learn about Romeo and Juliet with Aunty Jen Productions. This was a great experience and certainly a memorable first trip with Alcester Academy.

Aunty Jen Productions provided the students with several workshops in the morning, followed by a performance of Romeo and Juliet in the afternoon. Year 9 particularly engaged with the workshops as we learnt about the history of Shakespeare, how to read and perform key scenes from Romeo and Juliet, as well as how to correctly use stage combat within performances. After lunch, we were then treated to a performance of the play. This was a great way for the students to engage with Romeo and Juliet, as this is one of their set examination texts for GCSE English Literature. Aunty Jen and her team of wonderful actors gave a great performance and were great to work with throughout the day.

Year 9 showed me on this trip just how amazing they are. They all engaged with each of the workshops and thoroughly enjoyed watching the play. The stage combat workshop was a definite hit as year 9 showed off their excellent drama skills.

The instructors of this workshop wanted me to give a special mention to Molly and Emily as they gave great stage combat performances – well done both! It was also great to hear year 9 reading Shakespeare to their peers, and doing so with such passion. They especially loved Lord Capulet's line in which he calls Juliet a "disobedient wretch!".

Thank you for a great time year 9, I am excited to start teaching Romeo and Juliet next year!

Miss Lewis

Epraise Updates—week ending 1.7.21

Congratulations to the Top Students this year:

1st	Harvey	7NE	Sixth week	303 points
2nd	Maya	7BW	Sixth week	276 points
3rd	Jack	7HT	Seventh week	250 points

Top Scorers this week:

1	Harvey	7NE	24 points
2	Lucas	7WI	20 points
3	Thomas	7WI	13 points
3	Luke	9SC	13 points
5	Holly	7HT	11 points
5	Sam	8BL	11 points
5	Isabelle	9WA	11 points
5	Freija	10SH	11 points
9	Brandon	7TY	10 points
9	Richard	10PW	10 points

Top Staff this week:

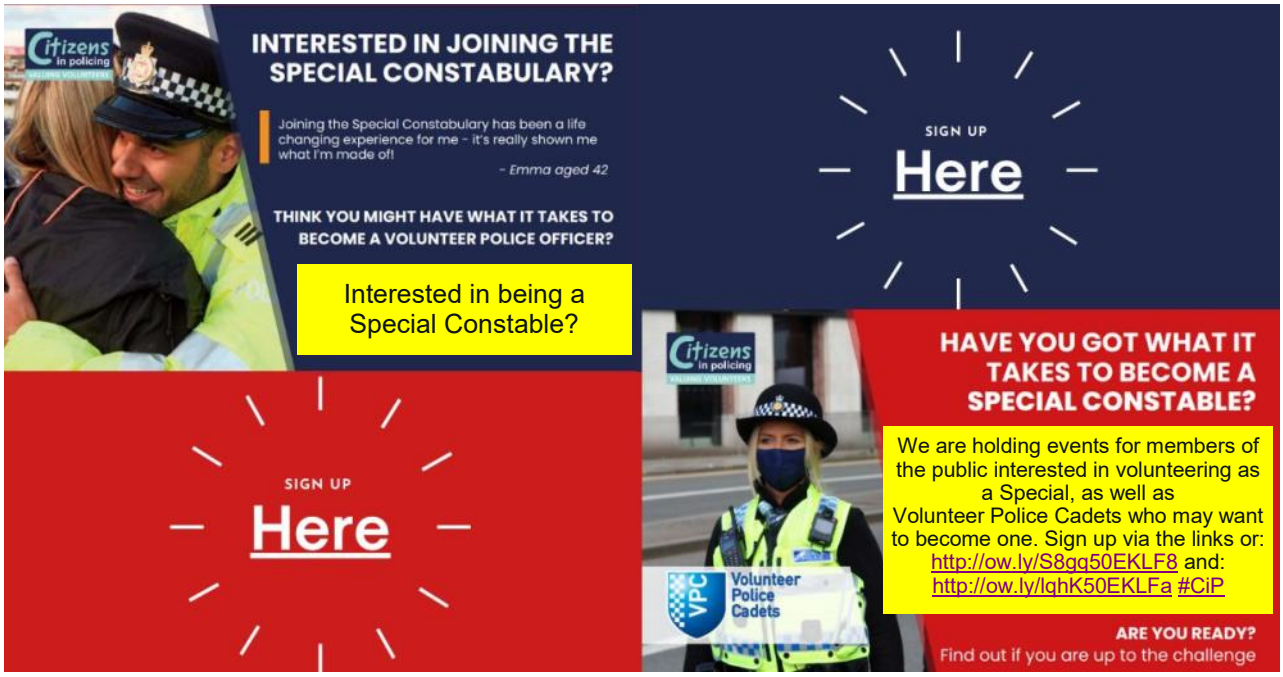
1	Miss Burgess	258 points
2	Mr Bowater	237 points
3	Mr Bastock	230 points
4	Miss Bayliss	207 points
5	Mr Yarrington	161 points

Top Tutor Groups this week:

1	7HT	137 points
1	7WI	137 points
3	7NE	130 points
4	8BL	125 points
5	7BW	105 points

Top Subjects this week:

1	Science	450 points
2	Geography	318 points
3	Maths	257 points
4	Art	149 points
5	German	84 points



Mop up immunisations	**Monday 5th July**
Year 6 Virtual Induction Day	**Friday 9th July**
Year 7-10 End of term trips (Covid permitting)	**Tuesday 13th July**
Sports Day (students only)	**Thursday 15th July**
Break up 12.40pm	**Tuesday 20th July**

The Summer term will once again finish at 12.40pm on Tuesday 20th July. In order to support the safe dismissal of all children we will be staggering the times that students will be leaving school (see below for details).

Year 7 and 8 – leaving at 12.40pm
Year 9 and 10 – leaving at 12.45pm

We are delighted to inform parents that the majority of buses can accommodate our early finish this year and the only services that CANNOT are 241 Stagecoach and 202 & 246 Meadway.

If you are collecting your child, please collect them from the area surrounding their bubble entrance whilst maintaining the one-way system along Gerard Road. Please enter Gerard Road via Captain's Hill and exit via Gerard Road leading into Throckmorton Road. Alternatively, parents can make arrangements to collect children from Captain's Hill.

If your child travels by a public service bus please ensure you either check the timetable for an earlier service or make alternative travel arrangements for their journey home.

Kind regards
School Office

JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #17 - RETAIL BUYER

Warwickshire Libraries is on the lookout for budding young poets

The search for the next Young Poet Laureate (YPL) is on and applications are welcomed from budding young poets aged 13-17.

Warwickshire Libraries has launched the seventh YPL search in partnership with Poetry on Loan, an organisation supported by Arts Council England that aims to promote contemporary poetry throughout public libraries in the West Midlands.

The successful Poet Laureate will use their creative ideas to champion poetry as both a writer and performer and will share their work throughout the county to a wide audience. Previous YPLs have been commissioned to write and perform poetry at special events across the county. They have also worked with library staff to deliver poetry sessions to customers of many ages and taken part in local events such as festivals and open mic nights. Over the last year, this has also branched out into digital performance via social media and virtual events.

The deadline for applications is 6pm on Wednesday 8 September. Shortlisted candidates will then be invited to take part in a virtual workshop and interview. Applicants who successfully reach the final stage of the process will be asked to perform some of their work.

For further details about the YPL role, the application process and how to apply visit warwickshire.gov.uk/youngpoetlaureate

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
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

147 CLUB
EPSB
ENGLISH PARTNERSHIP FOR SNOOKER AND BILLIARDS
WANT TO TRY SNOOKER OR BILLIARDS?
JOIN OUR JUNIOR SNOOKER HOLIDAY CLUB THIS SUMMER!
SIX SESSIONS for new players AGED 6-16 during the summer holidays
ONLY £1 per session
Lots of fun, and loads of prizes!
Where: Stratford Sports Club
Swans Nest Lane, Stratford, CV37 7LS
When: 4pm – 6pm
Thurs 22, 29 July; 5, 12, 19, 26 August
To book your place
Call: Andrew Norman – 01789 296 629
Email: andrewnorman@stratfordsport.co.uk
https://www.stratfordsportsclub.co.uk/courses/
LED BY A WPBSA WORLD SNOOKER COACH AND PART OF A NATIONAL PROGRAMME
WWW.EPSB.CO.UK
SPORT ENGLAND
WPBSA
PowerGlide
#CUE4ALL
#JUNIORSNOOKER

Summer Holiday ideas for you

Warwick—Summer Holiday Camps—
https://warwick.ac.uk/services/holidaycamps/

Thursday 22nd July—Thursday 2nd September (excluding 30th August)

Warwick School—

https://www.warwickschool.org/holiday-activities

Warwick School has an extensive programme of holiday clubs and courses open to pupils from all schools, which run throughout holiday time across the course of the year.

They are open to all children from Reception to Year 7 (up to and including 12-year-olds) and are a fun way to experience new or favourite activities in a stunning environment with experienced staff.

The range of courses includes Swimming, Cricket, Art and Craft, Football, Multi-Sports, Mad Science, Badminton, Cookery and Netball to name but a few.

Coolsportz—
https://www.coolsportz.co.uk/warwick

Do you have an active child who needs entertaining over the school break? Do you want them to be in a fun, sociable environment?

Our holiday clubs cater for ages 5-15 years (we will take 4 year olds, for half days) and feature a range of fun, game-based, multi-sport activities in a safe indoor and outdoor environment.

TimeOutdoors—
https://www.timeoutdoors.com/events/runs/Mudnificent-7-charity-places

The most fun event of the year! A unique event & summer festival with an amazing course split into seven themed zones.

WCB—
https://warwickshirecricketboard.co.uk/wcbcamps/
WCB are excited announce that we will be running a number of action-packed cricket camps throughout the Summer break. These camps will run during the hours of 10am – 3pm,

All Active Camps—
http://www.allactivecamps.com/sportacademies/

We have been running sport specific camps at the West Warwickshire Sports Complex since 2007. The emphasis has always been on finding the right balance between having fun and improving skills in a safe environment.

Pershore Riverside Youth Centre – Summer programme **AUGUST 2021**

PERSHORE RIVERSIDE Youth Centre

Day time youth group sessions with our fantastic team of youth workers.

PRYC have developed a 14-day Summer program with changes to meet Covid-19 safe working guidelines. In an environment where young people can be active, socialise, and most importantly have fun throughout summer. There are limited spaces, however there will be *additional* youth groups held around this program. Please enquire on the contact details below for more information.

- Ages 8 – 14.
- **Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 12pm – 3pm.** (Starting 2nd August - Until 31st August).
- Fun activities and workshops each day with our Youth Workers and Partners.
- Water sports one day per week! Additional clothing needed for water sports activities day.
- Following all appropriate guidelines concerning COV-19.
  Including working outdoors as much as possible, regular cleaning and accessible hand sanitiser.
- Snacks and drinks will be provided - With regular breaks.
- Limited places available due to Covid-19.

Payment is required in advance to secure your place **£5 per day - £70 for all 14 sessions.**

For a booking form please contact:

Admin@pershoreriversidecentre.org.uk

Or Tel: 01386 554713 *for any further enquiries.*

PGL—https://www.pgl.co.uk/en-gb/adventure-holidays

Since 1957, over 8,000,000 children and parents have discovered what makes PGL, the UK's no.1 for children's 'summer camp' activity breaks. Our all-inclusive residential holidays offer children bags of fun activities, new friends and freedom to express themselves but in a safe, supportive environment with first class care.

Aztec Adventure—https://www.aztecadventure.co.uk/lower-moor/children-s-activites/holiday-courses/

Our holiday activity courses are an exciting and fun way to spend the school break taking place over half term, Easter and for an action packed 6 weeks of the summer holidays.
Take part for one or more action packed days or make a week of it in the summer and get the chance to work towards nationally recognised watersports certificates. Our courses run from 9.30am - 4pm and are suitable for 8 – 15 year olds. All watersports equipment and tuition is provided by our qualified and DBS checked staff.

AZTEC adventure

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

PE Practices: week beginning 5th July 2021

Tuesday 6th July	Year 9/10 Athletics practice
Wednesday 7th July	Year 8 Athletics practice
Thursday 8th July:	Year 7 Athletics practice

If your practice night is on a day when you don't have PE, come to school in your PE kit and wait in your bubble areas for the PE staff to collect you at the end of the school day.
All practices will run until 4.30pm. and are open to everyone in the specified year groups.

Alcester Academy

Open Evening 2021

Tuesday 21st September - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Alcester Academy

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

Open Evening

Tuesday 21st September - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Guided Open Mornings

Monday 20th September to Friday 24th September 2021

9.30am to include a SLT Q&A session

Alcester Academy is happy to open its doors to prospective parents for Open Week 2021.
Respectfully we ask families to book just one guided open morning at their convenience during this week.
Please call the main office on 01789 762285 in September
or alternatively email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk anytime.

'There is a culture of high expectation in lessons. Pupils are encouraged to aim high and teachers do not accept mediocre answers.'
Ofsted 2019

View our 360° tour at: http://tours.lourdesit.org.uk/Alcester/

Alcester Academy, Gerard Road, Alcester, B49 6QQ * Tel: 01789 762285 * Email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk * Website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk

Alcester Academy