Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

21st May 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the bulletin this week. We are still covid free at the academy and have enjoyed the easing of restrictions more this week. It has been so lovely to see the smiley faces of students in class again. Thank you for supporting us with masks still being worn in communal school areas. Yet again the students have adapted in an exemplary manners taking everything in their stride very calmly. We are still contemplating covid safety of the various live events that we have planned for next half term. We will update you as guidance is published alongside the reviews of the roadmap. I appreciate your understanding with the challenge that making these decisions presents.

There has been lots to celebrate this week with the continued excellent attitude of students in school. Year 9 had a Super Learning Day dedicated to finding out more about the very serious topic of Child Exploitation in *Working For Marcus*. We are grateful to Loudmouth for delivering this remotely for us safely. Mrs Powell has written about this later in the bulletin.

Year 11s had their busiest week of assessments yet; this was balanced though with the arrival of their leavers' hoodies. These always go down well but act as a visual reminder that it is not long until they go! We are just collecting details of the arrangements for Post 16 enrolment for parents and students for 12th August results day and will write to you with the bespoke details for each provider 'on the day' in the summer.

I'd like to take this opportunity to specifically congratulate Eloise in year 11 for her five years of 100% attendance – WOW! This is an amazing achievement and we are so very proud of this.

Bilal also deserves this recognition although he did start with us slightly later than year 7. This is very rarely achieved and we are really proud of you both.

Some of our year 11s modelling their 2021 leavers' hoodies!

Year 9 Musical Theatre Extravaganza

On Thursday year 9 performing arts students spent the day performing their Musical Theatre extravaganza.

As well as ensemble pieces from Six the musical and Made in Dagenham, all students performed a solo piece from their chosen musical theatre show.

A wide variety of numbers were chosen ranging from Hamilton to Les Mis and Mamma Mia to Grease. We are super proud of their achievements and excited by their talent.

Miss Sacco

In other news this week, our year 9s are getting ready to head off to sunny Bideford next week on their residential. We wish them a happy and safe trip ahead. This is in lieu of the Marle Hall trip that usually takes place at the start of KS4 courses but couldn't this year because of covid-19. Thanks to Miss Buckthorp, Miss Tandy, Mrs Clarke, Mr Rowberry, Mr Badham and Miss Watson for giving up their week for the students and to the staff behind the scenes who have helped to organise this. Watch twitter @AlcesterAcademy for some photos during the week!

If you are in regular contact with Miss Buckthorp for LSU support, please be aware that her responses might not be as quick from the beach next week so please feel free to contact LSU directly or me as required. Thank you. We wish the students a lovely week of further team and resilience building.

Some of these students also embarked on a fantastic first D of E expedition as well last week and so I'm sure that they are more than ready for the week ahead in Devon!

Year 8 Options

Don't miss the communication already sent out this week about the Option process if you are year 8 parents. We are rapidly drawing closer to the students selecting their future courses. It's a very exciting time indeed.

Homework?

How is it going? Too much? Not enough? Your child (years 7-10) should be getting a regular amount of homework now that we have been back from lockdown for a number of weeks. If you are concerned about this, do let us know.

What is your child learning?

Quite often, parents tell us that they are not certain exactly what their child is learning. Please see the detailed long term plans on each curriculum area of our website https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/quality-of-education. These outline topics and assessment windows in each subject area. The contact details for all teachers are displayed here for you too.

COVID Keepers

Thank you for the final feedback on School Cloud use for Parents' Evenings for next academy year. 86.6% of parents said that they would like to continue with School Cloud, or have no preference. Year 9 parents provided the most responses to the survey.

It looks likely that we will use this system from now on but I won't deny the 13.4% parents who still wish to see someone face to face this opportunity, and I'll consider how we make SLT more accessible to those of you that wish to continue with this personal aspect. If you wish to feedback anything further about systems that we have operated during covid, please contact school. We'd be pleased to hear from you.

schoolcloud Parents Evening

Free School Meals – May half term

We will be writing to you if you are eligible for further vouchers under the Warwickshire Winter Grant Scheme for half term. Thanks to Mrs Kirby for arranging these.

Half term holiday clubs

I'm sharing a few sources of useful information of holiday care:

https://www.takeitfrommummy.com/whats-on/holiday-clubs-in-warwickshire/

https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/holidayscheme

https://www.onsidecoaching.co.uk/

https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20810/active_community_and_wellbeing/517/holiday_activities

https://www.warwickschool.org/what-is-on-in-2021

Cheerleading – NOW OPEN TO YEAR 8

I have about 15 places left for Cheerleading starting on Monday 21st June after school. This is a free 4 week pilot programme with Michelle Hughes from Strong Feet Dance. Sadly we did not have the year 7 interest that I expected. Please let year 8 tutors know if students are interested in joining this. This is open to boys and girls.

Induction Update for year 6s

We are just liaising with our feeder primary schools in order to begin to look at the safety precautions required in order for an induction day to take place next half term. Once we have spoken with headteachers, we will write to you with some minor changes that hopefully will provide you with further covid confidence as you hand your children to us for their first secondary school day.

Business Bulletin – Next Week

I am still taking adverts for local businesses that wish to feature in next week's free Business Bulletin. Please send A6 artwork to head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Year 10 news

Our Student Leadership applications are now open for prefects, Head Boy and Head Girl. The students had a virtual assembly on this

JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #12 - LIBRARIAN

yesterday and we're looking forward to a new team being built very soon.

Finally, I hope that you are all now beginning to receive your covid vaccinations and that this might provide some further reassurances for your personal and family safety. SLT are all now vaccinated (clearly of the right age category since last weekend anyway!) with other staff slowly receiving theirs too now. We are still distributing the LFDs to students but I understand now that you can collect these from branches of Boots as well as other venues to assist your family testing.

Thank you once again for my amazing big birthday wishes last weekend. On a very serious note now, I was overwhelmed, and had a lovely few days that started so memorably with our wonderful student and staff good wishes!

Let's be looking forward to the heatwave that I hear we might get soon. Is it May?
Wishing you all a relaxing weekend ahead.
Best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2021

Half Term
Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June 2021

Back to school
Monday 7th June 2021

Summer Term ends
Tuesday 20th July 2021 at 12.40pm

2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

VOLUNTEERING
Could you be part of the Commonwealth Collective?

We're looking for more than 13,000 spirited, dedicated and dynamic volunteers to be the heartbeat of the Commonwealth Games, a community of passionate people coming together to help deliver the biggest sporting and cultural event the West Midlands has ever seen.

Birmingham and the West Midlands is a community of communities, home to more than 180 nationalities. The Commonwealth Collective will represent the vibrancy and diversity of our people at Birmingham 2022, a home Games for every nation.
As part of the Commonwealth Collective, you'll be the public face of Birmingham 2022, the heart and soul of the Games experience for athletes, officials, spectators, and a global audience of more than one billion.

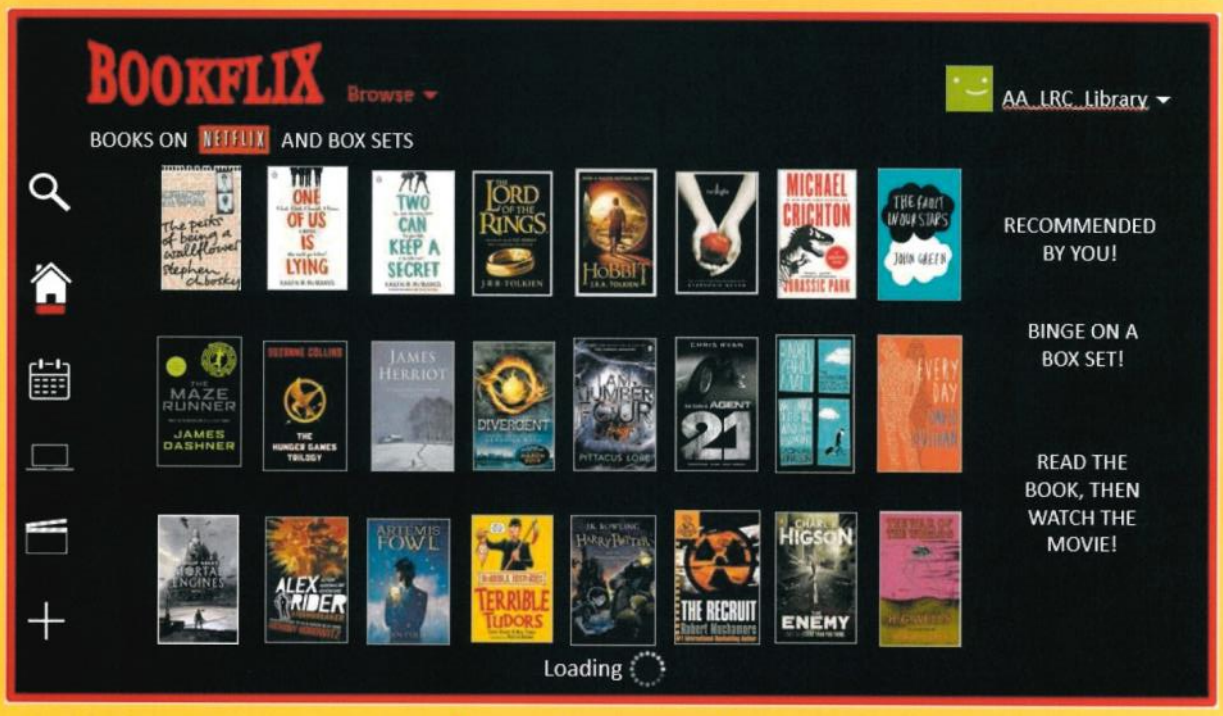
There will be limited opportunities available for under 18 volunteers.
https://www.birmingham2022.com/get-involved/volunteering/faq/

BIRMINGHAM 2022
commonwealth games

We asked the students to create a list of recommended books during our World Book Day SLD. Our students can access further information via the LRC Google Classroom (dt6iw3u). Here are their recommended reads...

Years 9 and 10

We asked and you recommended...



Alcester Enterprise

The aim is to provide opportunities for our young people to develop essential skills and attitudes, which not only enrich their academic learning, but also provide a strong foundation for their future. Alcester Enterprise will motivate our young people to succeed in the changing world of work by equipping them with the work skills, knowledge, and confidence they will need.

Summer Fair 2021

So some of our year 9 and 10 students are organising a Summer Fair. The students are running stalls to sell goods that they have made, activity stalls and the famous tombola is back!

We are looking to expand this summer event by opening up the opportunity to parents and carers. If you are interested in having a stall, please email Mrs Hale for more information. paulahale@alcesteracademy.org.uk or call 01789 762285.

A plea!

If you have any unwanted gifts that you would like to donate for the tombola, please can you let Mrs Hale have them.

The date for this event to be unveiled shortly!

Mrs Hale

The year 10 students were asked to choose a charity to donate their profits to. These are the charities the groups have chosen...

This year Alcester Academy are holding a brand-new event in place of the well-known Young Enterprise competition that takes place each year. Alcester Enterprise holds a similar premise—to create a product or scheme which develops into a business with a name, company goal and hopefully some profits which will go towards a charity of our choice.

I am part of a group making hair accessories, masks, and bracelets but we also have groups doing Tombola, Hook a Duck, Hoopla and much more!

The aim is to have a summer fete at the end of the term once restrictions are lifted where we can sell our products and run our stalls. This is an exciting opportunity after the chaos of COVID and we are excited to see what it will bring.

Written by Freija

We chose the charity Teenage Cancer Trust as not only have some of us been close with a friend who lost her brother to cancer but being teenagers ourselves the mere thought of the impact cancer could have on our lives is heart-breaking.

So, knowing there are people like us who have the same hopes and lives who need help we thought it was obvious to donate our money there.

The Teenage Cancer Trust not only helps with medical care but supports teenagers through some of the darkest times in their lives and helps them find their way. The Trust is in even more dire need of support after the Coronavirus crisis. We believe the money we make would be most suited to help other teenagers in their time of need.

Written by Jessica, Alice, Freija and Olivia.

TEENAGE CANCER TRUST

FOUR PAWS

Four Paws is a global animal welfare organization which rescues animals in need and protects those vulnerable to human influence. Their vision is a world where humans treat animals with respect, empathy and understanding. Some of their current campaigns to end animal suffering include tackling the problem of animal abuse in the tourism industry, inspiring people to have a healthy yet cruelty free diet and also to abolish testing cosmetics on animals.

Our Alcester Enterprise group is passionate to support this movement and encourage others to do the same. This is why we are donating all our money that we make from our stalls to Four Paws. We want reform for animal rights and hope that you too will help to end animal suffering once and for all.

Written by Amelia, Lily, Gabby and Bea.

Alcester Rock Academy returns with it's first live concert since 2019!

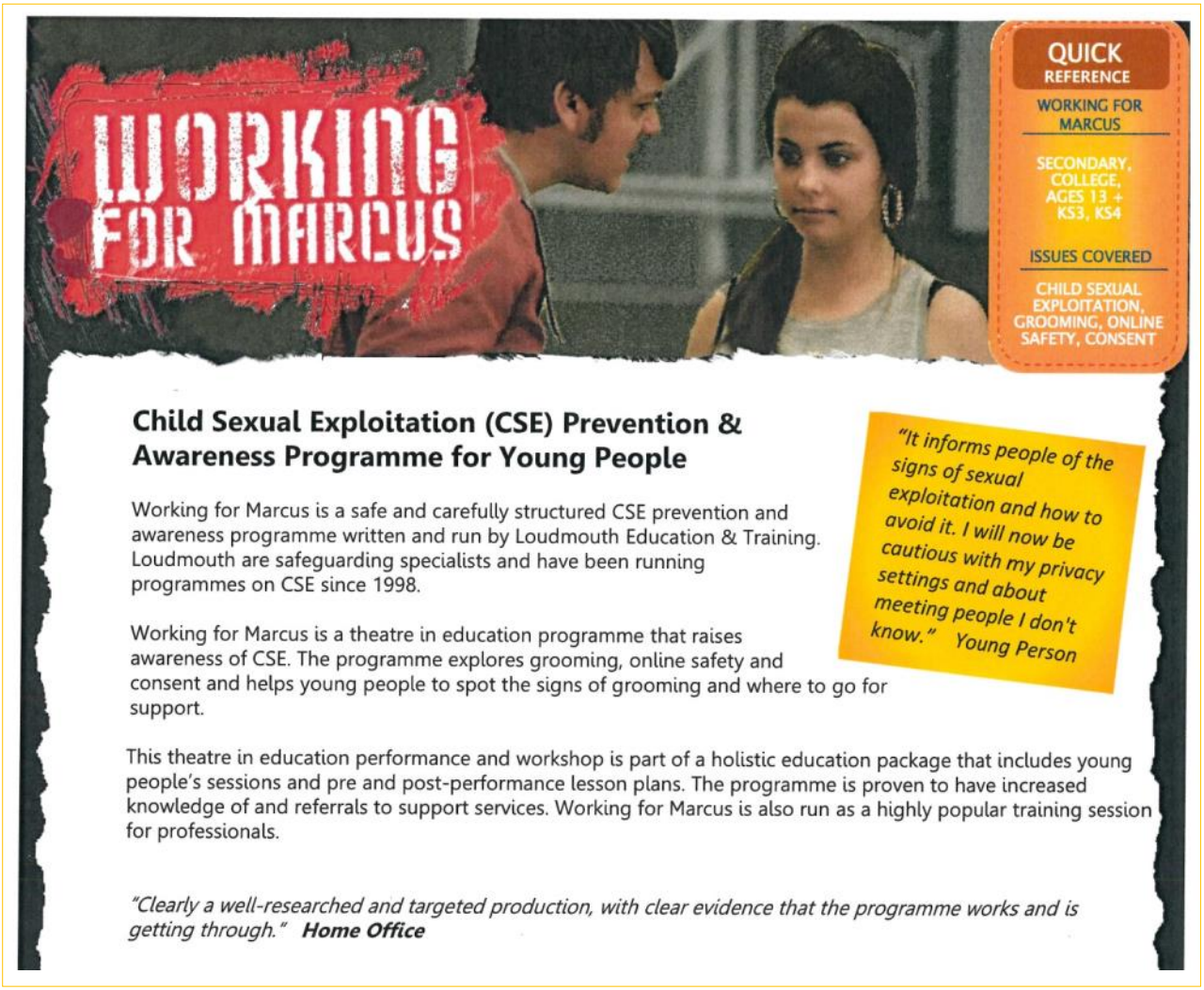
Featuring the amazing Rock Academy bands - G+T Jazz Group, year 9 *Band of Awesomeness*, Year 7 School Band, Ukulele Group and so much more!

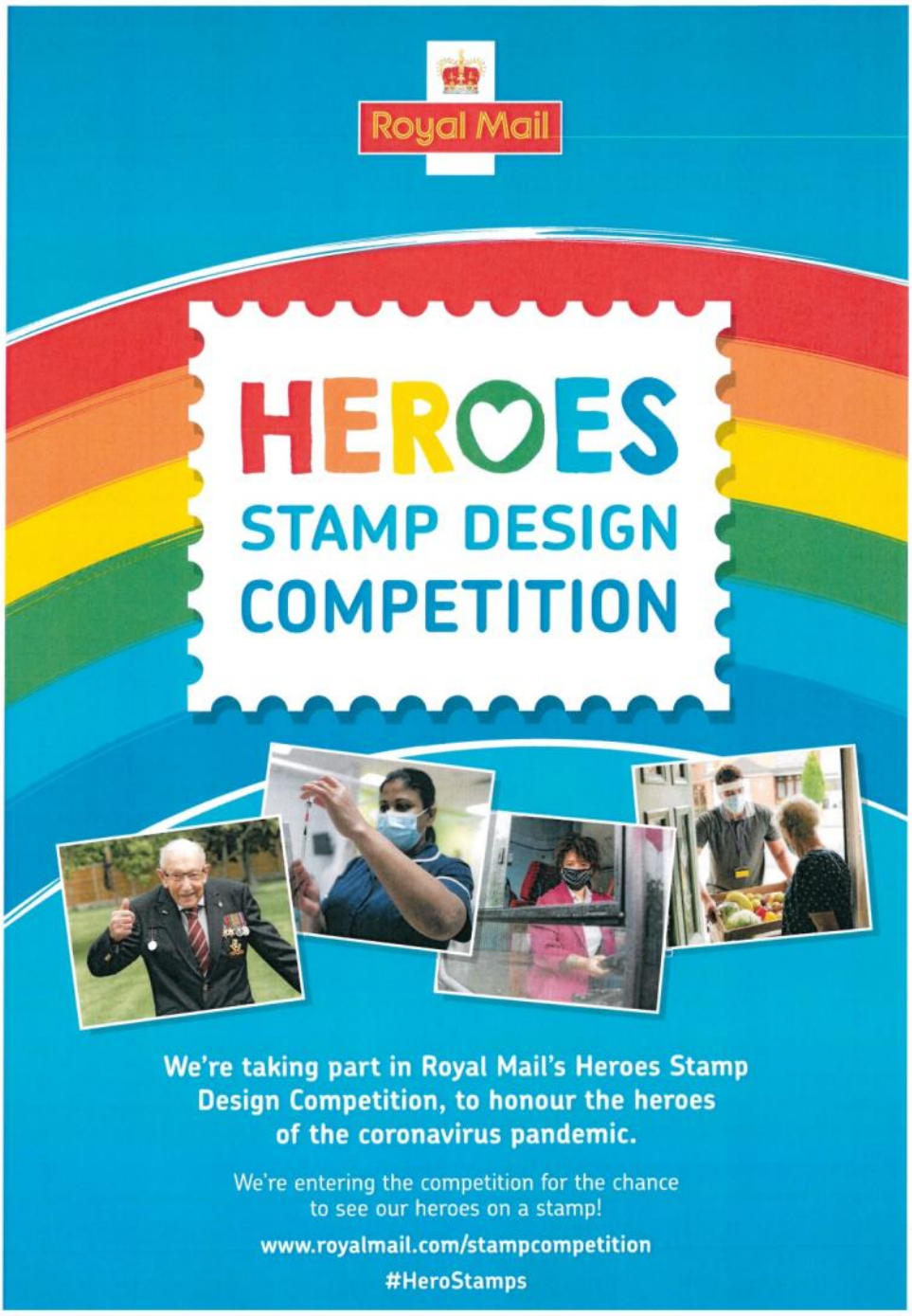
A packed evening of rock and pop classics with amazing sound and lights courtesy of our long-time sponsors Upstage Ltd.

Working for Marcus—PSHE Workshop

On Monday year 9 took part in a Super Learning Day - *Working for Marcus*. It explores the issue of child sexual exploitation. Normally students would see a live play and then take part in a carousel of workshops but for the first time we did some of this virtually. The students watched Caz's story of being sexually exploited at the hands of Marcus, this provided a thought-provoking start to the day. They then explored issues such as grooming, staying safe online, who can you trust and what is love?

Mrs Powell





School Attendance — up to 20.5.21

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
95.8%	93.9%	92.8%	91.3%	92.1%	93.3%

This week's top Tutor Groups

7TY and 7HT – 95.6%, 8CA and 8ST – 97.7%, 9AN – 96.8%, 10RO – 99.0% , 11BR – 97.4%

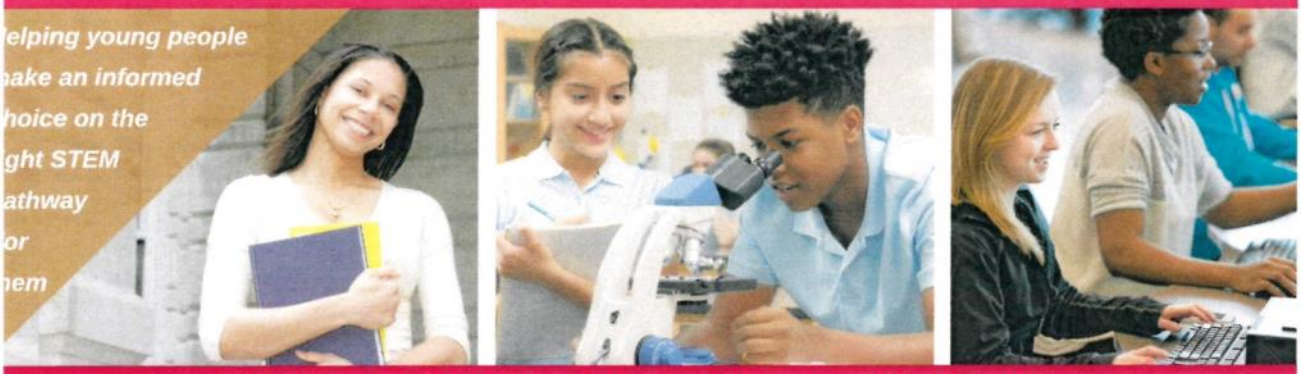
Photography of the Week

This week Callum in year 9 has been creating a magazine cover exploring graffiti and freestyle scooting using his own photography and Photoshop during his GCSE lesson.

Great work Callum! *Miss Nemeshanyi*

EDT Industrial Cadets

Virtual ROUTES INTO STEM



Flexible study courses running in May and July 2021

Now more than ever, young people need us.
Through Routes Into STEM we connect young people with their peers in a safe and reliable environment where they can engage, develop and thrive together. Our structured and curriculum enhanced Routes into STEM course provides skills and knowledge to help students navigate their future career choices.

We are here to help.
Whilst everyone is getting used to a changing schedule as restrictions ease, EDT can give them a peace of mind by continuing to connect young people with industry and inspire STEM futures.

Virtual Routes into STEM course
This an innovative and exciting opportunity for all students aged 13-16 (Year 9 & Year 10) to explore the various routes they can take towards their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) career. It is designed to give students an insight into pathways following GCSE's including study routes via College and University and direct Apprenticeship routes through industry. It is suitable for all academic abilities - all that is required is a genuine interest in STEM subjects and inquisitiveness about what the future can hold.

Approximately 20 hours of studies are required to be completed over 3 weeks, allowing students to study flexibly at a pace that suits their individual circumstances, giving them the freedom to study around other activities that they may have planned.

LIVE ***A variety of live interactive sessions will take place allowing students to listen and ask questions to diverse STEM professionals and student ambassadors.***

Click here for full course details

@IndustrialCadet Visit us online www.etrust.org.uk @TheEDTUK

EDT

Industrial Cadets

Virtual ROUTES INTO STEM

- gives students a fantastic insight as to what life would be in a variety of different settings. Students will be able to tour a variety of multiple colleges, universities, and employers across the UK virtually.
- grants access to a comprehensive program of study, engaging challenges, and a wealth of information enabling students to better understand their future study and career options.
- sets out a chance to take part in exciting STEM activities and projects including hands on problem solving, decision making and critical thinking tasks.
- provides access to live STEM education and career sessions with range of role models including student ambassadors, apprentices, graduates, academics as well as mentor panels with STEM employers to join live Q&A session with an opportunity to ask our panel of experts any questions
- awards students with an extremely valuable addition to their portfolio, a highly regarded industry led accreditation that was inspired by HRH The Prince of Wales. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a Bronze Industrial Cadets award and be in a position to make a more informed decision about their future.

Course details

The course cost is £60 towards the cost of administration and the Industrial Cadets Bronze award. Bursary places are available, please refer to the application form.

Next course dates:
20th May – 10th June 2021
15th July – 5th August 2021

If you have any further questions, click here for more info or please contact our team at studentrecruitment@etrust.org.uk or call on 01707 906106

APPLY NOW

Don't just take our word for it

96% *of the students feel confident about skills and knowledge after the course compared to 45% prior to the course and developed an understanding about variety of STEM pathways*

"I just love how we could do it over time and fit it around our schedule."

98% *of Virtual Routes into STEM students post-course recognised apprenticeships can enable them to train in a fulfilling role in STEM*

"It was really interesting to find out how the people working for various companies got into their jobs, and I learnt a lot about what can happen after GSCEs which I didn't know before. Overall it was a really beneficial session, and introduced me to many pathways and career options which I wasn't even aware of before."

Epraise Updates—week ending 20.5.21

Congratulations to the Top Students this year:

1st	Harvey	7NE	First week	253 points
2nd	Maya	7BW	First week	251 points
3rd	Jack	7HT	Second week	233 points

Top Scorers this week:

1	Harvey	7NE	19 points
2	Louie	10PW	13 points
3	Zach	7NE	9 points
4	Charlotte	7TY	8 points
4	Joshua	7NE	8 points
4	Charlie	7BW	8 points
4	Carter	10PW	8 points
4	Chloe	9WA	8 points
9	Sid	7TY	7 points
9	Jasmine	8ST	7 points

Top Staff this week:

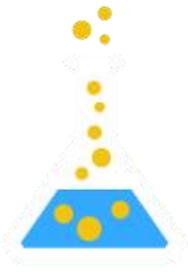
1	Mr Bowater	273 points
2	Miss Cooper	196 points
3	Mrs Burgess	174 points
4	Mr Yarrington	160 points
5	Mr Bastock	157 points

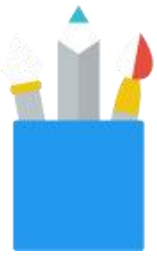
Top Subjects this week:

1	Science	431 points
2	Geography	278 points
3	Maths	196 points
4	Art	162 points
5	English	102 points

Top Tutor Groups this week:

1	7NE	108 points
2	7BW	106 points
3	7TY	104 points
4	7WI	103 points
5	8ST	94 points





MFL Idiom of the Week

English: Little things please little minds.
French: Un âne gratte l'autre
Literal meaning: One donkey scratches another
German: Kleine Dinge erfreuen kleine Geister
Literal meaning: Little things please small minds

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

Practice Schedule Summer Term 2021

Day/Date	Activity	
Tuesday 25th May	Year 9 House Football	**Schools' Football Week 2021**
Wednesday 26th May	Year 8 House Football	
Thursday 27th May	Year 7 House Football	

ALCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Covid compliant, all rules followed and controls in place

ALCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Calling All Locals

Your Local

Community

Rugby CLUB NEEDS YOU

The following positions are empty and need filling:

- Mini and/or Juniors Fixtures secretary
- Rugby Safe Lead
- Line marking (Saturday morning - paid role)
- M&J Coaches & Coaching Support for
  - This year's Atoms, U8s, U9s
  - Next year's U7s
- Volunteers for the 2021/22 Club Committee

Interested?

Contact Stu Phillips on 07843 080865

Dave Marriott-Woods on 07823 536083

Pop down and speak to one of the Current Committee Members

ACCREDITED RFU CLUB

Sponsor Your local club! Sponsorship deals available.

https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterRugby/

ALCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB