

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



24th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had a great week and enjoyed Father's Day last Sunday. Thank you to all of those that are positive male role models in our students' lives.

It's been an emotional week in school during the last few days for our year 11s. Our librarians had their LRC leaving party on Monday and bit by bit, staff and students have spent the few days that they have been in school this week remembering those memorable events from the last five years, (whilst also learning more science!). Thanks to our science staff team for keeping going until the very last GCSE yesterday.



Speeches were made and tears were shed. Well done to Oscar for helping to encourage us to raise £1000 yesterday for Heart Link.

Such a fitting end to his five years with us. I am very grateful for your contributions.



After the last exam, we laid on drinks, pizzas and ice lollies for the year group. Our Leavers' Assembly was then supported by Mr Badham, Tiago, Luke and Ed. We had renditions of *Mr Brightside* and *Sweet Caroline*! The hall was all singing along. We also saw the infamous photos of students arriving in their year 6 primary uniforms. Our year 11s were so cute!





Class of
2022





Last night we had an amazing prom celebrating with the students. It was such a fitting conclusion to our time together. Thanks to *Kings Court Hotel* for making our evening so special. I managed to arrive early enough to see the tractors arriving in style, the artic lorry, the army van and the Ferrari, as well as many other superb chauffeur driven vehicles.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for dropping off gifts for the staff team. These are never expected or taken for granted, but are always very gratefully received in the staff room I can assure you!

Year 11 Message from the Chair of Governors – Mike Dean

As you depart from Alcester Academy please take with you the pride you have all displayed in our school via your behaviours and academic achievements.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I wish you all well as you use what you take from our Academy to build happy and successful lives for the future.

Enjoy your Leavers' Assembly and the Prom which you so richly deserve.

This was read out to students in the Leavers' Assembly.

In other news this week

85 of our year 9s went off to Bristol today to complete their geography field work. I look forward to updating you next week. Thank you to Mrs Stedman for organising this.

We spent a lovely evening this week meeting many of our new year 6 parents via School Cloud. We have added this as another way of meeting new students and parents before transition, in order to offer further information and support. We are looking forward to seeing parents and students live at the start of July; it won't be long now.

Mr Cooke spoke about *National Armed Forces Day* in assembly, we celebrated *National Sports Week* and we began rehearsals for *Celebration Evening*, which is next Thursday. Next week, Mr Powell is hosting assemblies to get us ready for Sports Day.

Attendance

After months of hard work from you all, we hit 600 students in school on Thursday! Wow! You've been aware that I have been trying to get to this for some time. This is helping to finally show some recovery from Covid-19.



Well done year 7s

Our year 7s celebrated the Summer Solstice on Tuesday as part of their Philosophy studies. Students took part in some mask making, mandala art work, dance amongst other activities. Thank you to staff for making this happen!



Year 10 GCSE Statisticians

The year 11 exams may well be over now, but our younger year 10s sat their first GCSE exam today, in Statistics. We are very proud of them!

Alne Fest last weekend

Thank you to Mr Badham and the students for their time last weekend at Alne Fest. Although I heard that it was showery, it sounded like a



great turn out and fantastic atmosphere. Mr Badham continues his *World Tour* (well, *Warwickshire Tour*) with the bands at primary schools this term.

D of E

Our D of E expedition season starts this weekend. We wish everyone all the best. Be safe! Sunscreen at the ready.



Uniform

I'm grateful to you all for supporting us in returning to smart uniform after the mini heat wave last Friday. We do intend to have a pre-loved uniform sale before the end of term. Thanks to parents who have volunteered for this. Any donations of uniform items, to include PE kit, would be appreciated.

TikTok Warning

Please speak to your children about appropriate use of TikTok. Thank you. Any derogatory posts will be dealt with very firmly. I'm very keen to find out who has set up a year 8 account. Should you have any information on this, I would be grateful to receive it.

Recent Blencathra trip

Mrs Stedman has published a report this week on the recent residential with year 10.

Welcome back Mrs Woodman!

Mrs Woodman has returned this week after her recent accident. *Welcome back Mrs Woodman! We've missed you.*

Thanks Miss Lewis

Many thanks to Miss Lewis for speaking to teacher trainees at Worcester University this week about life in the first year of teaching! We have had six new teachers this year who are coming to the end of a highly successful year.

Performing Arts—West End trip

Thank you to the staff supporting the West End trip this weekend. This has been made much more challenging by the rail strikes tomorrow. Special thanks to Mrs Savery for working out the travel contingency needed. Best wishes all.

Road Safety

I have been approached again by a member of the community to ask if our students riding to school can try to be more mindful of road safety. Please could you discuss this at home.

Thank you AGS Students

We have been lucky enough to have some amazing year 12 AGS students on Work Experience with us this half term. Congratulations to Louisa, Poppy, Dan, Lochie, Sophie and Suzanne.

Three Counties Triumph

Congratulations to some of our students for their success at the *Three Counties Show* last weekend, after a long break because of Covid-19.



Response to our FB plea for resources for our sensory room

Thank you for an overwhelming response to our new sensory room and garden being developed for September 2022. Particular thanks to Mrs New for dropping the plants to us on Monday evening donated by New Inn Lane Nurseries. This was extremely generous. Just a little shout out as thanks <https://www.newinnlanenurseries.co.uk/>.

EPRAISE

We have a demerit option to use on EPRAISE and we will be making this available for parents to see in September.



Covid-19 statistics

We have seen a very marginal increase in Covid-19 cases again this week as follows:

- Year 7—no cases
- Year 8—1 case
- Year 9—1 case
- Year 10— no cases

In final news this week, it was confirmed by the Secretary of State for Education, Nadhim Zahawi this week that he would most definitely like to visit the school in the new academic year. After such a lot of communication over our Ofsted, it was suggested that to see Alcester Academy in action was the right thing to do. I will update you more when I have further details. I'm very excited.

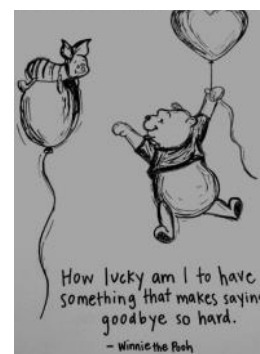


What a week! I'm not sure, yet again, how we have packed this all in. Thanks to the staff team for making such great opportunities happen this week for the students.

One last time, I would like to wish our year 11s the very best for a wonderful summer ahead. They are a very special year group indeed and they will be missed a lot by us all here.

Wishing you all a super weekend ahead.

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher



Epraise—the past 7 days

Top Students past 7 days:

1	Darcy	7HT	20 points
2	Jack	8HL	16 points
2	Zak	8SO	16 points
4	Lester	7TY	15 points
4	Tyler	8HL	15 points
6	Fraser	9WE	14 points
6	Isaac	8SO	14 points
8	Joe	8HL	12 points
8	Alice	7HT	12 points
8	Skye	7RA	12 points

Top Staff past 7 days:

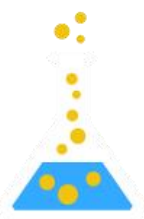
1	Miss Lewis	337 points
2	Mr Yarrington	279 points
3	Miss Burgess	149 points
4	Mr Rossiter	136 points
4	Mr Jones	136 points
6	Mrs Scott	130 points
7	Mr Martin	90 points
8	Miss Simpson	71 points
9	Miss Home	68 points
10	Mrs Stedman	46 points

Top Tutor Groups past 7 days:

1	7SI	158 points
2	7HT	140 points
3	8HL	139 points
4	7WI	128 points
5	8SO	124 points
6	8PK	122 points
7	7TY	120 points
8	7RA	119 points
9	8PW	88 points
10	8RO	78 points

Top Subjects past 7 days:

1	English	574 points
2	Art	300 points
3	Science	204 points
4	Maths	182 points
5	History	154 points
6	French	84 points
7	IT	70 points
8	Geography	46 points
9	Philosophy	37 points
10	Food Tech	18 points



Blencathra GCSE geography field trip



On Wednesday 8th June, we took 55 of our wonderful GCSE geography students on our annual residential trip to Blencathra, in the North Lakes. With wellies and waterproofs packed, we took a scenic and long drive to this beautiful part of the country. The students were so genuinely excited when we arrived and many were in awe of the surroundings including Blencathra mountain itself, which towers above the fieldwork centre where we stayed.

On Day 1, we undertook an investigation into rural change in the tiny and picturesque village of Threlkeld, a short, but quite steep walk away and on Day 2, we did our river fieldwork. Despite fears of getting soaked, it generally remained dry and the sun even came out on Friday!

The students were able to see and explore a glacial landscape, apply their knowledge and understanding of rivers and really experience geography in action. As usual we had our *Geographers of the Week* who answered questions



with an added level of passion and precision and were rewarded with some particularly fetching hats and t-shirts—Jack, Nick, Cam, Rosie and Marianna. Well done!

I can honestly say that all 55 students gave 100% to the whole experience. The centre staff were blown away by their engagement and participation and said they were "the best GCSE group they had ever had". Huge thanks to all the students and the wonderful staff who accompanied the trip—Mr Bowater, Mr Miles and Miss Knowles. See you next year Blencathra!
Mrs Stedman



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.

School Attendance — up to 23.6.22

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
90.9%	92.3%	92.7%	90.4%	87.9%	90.9%

This week's top tutor groups

7SI, 8SO, 9YA, 10AN and 11BR— *Well done! Mrs Hodges*

Vacancy—Attendance Officer



Alcester
Academy

Full Time Working Term Time (39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)

Salary Grade F - £20,043 to £22,129 (pro rata actual – £16,799 to £18,547).

Closing date Friday 8th July 2022 at 12 noon

Interviews w/c 11th July 2022

Starting September 2022

The Post—To provide a support which improves outcomes for families and young people by alleviating barriers to learning relating to attendance. To provide admin support for the Academy behaviour system. If you have any questions with regard to this vacancy or wish to visit the school, please contact: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk. We look forward to receiving your application.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Vacancy Teaching Assistant



Alcester
Academy

Full Time

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

Scale F range 6-11 FTE £19,698 starting salary (Actual pro rata £16,944)

Starting: September 2022

Closing date: Monday 27th June 2022 at 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 4th July 2022

Learning Support at Alcester Academy

Working under the supervision of the responsible teacher, assist and support teaching and learning, working with individuals or groups, and assist in providing general care, safety and welfare for pupils.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form which can be found on our website.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Tell us what you
want...
What you really,
really want...



alcester-tc.gov.uk
young.people.atc@gmail.com
clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Calling all Alcester based parents

We would love to know what topics are important to you and how you would like to receive information from Alcester Town Council.

What are your thoughts on town planning or climate change for example and how could we tackle this together?

Please take a few minutes to take part in our survey:

<https://s.surveypal.com/2kc7kl75>



Alcester Academy

'Pupils are proud to attend Alcester Academy.'

'Behaviour in school is exemplary, both in and out of lessons.'

'Staff have high expectations of all pupils and pupils are keen to meet these expectations.' *Ofsted 2022*

Open Events 2022

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

Open Evening including headteacher address

Thursday 22nd September—6.30pm to 8.30pm

Guided Open Mornings

Monday 19th September to Friday 23rd September—9.30am

Open Evening Pre-bookable evening tour* with a student guide. If you do not wish to have a tour, you are welcome to view the school at your leisure.

Guided Open Mornings Small group guided tours* with a member of the leadership team.

***ALL GUIDED TOURS OF THE SCHOOL ARE PRE-BOOKABLE ONLY. To book a guided tour at either our open evening, or an open morning, call the main office on 01789 762285 in September, or alternatively email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk anytime.**

Respectfully, we ask families to book just one tour at their convenience during this week.

Alcester Academy, Gerard Road, Alcester, B49 6QQ tel: 01789 762285 email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk



Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP
Secretary of State

Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

June 2022

T Levels: Information for Students and Parents

I am writing to give you information about new T Level qualifications and why they might be right for you or, if you are a parent, for your child.

T Levels are high quality new qualifications that follow on from GCSEs and enable 16–19 year olds to move onto a job, a higher apprenticeship or further study at university.

From September 2022 the following T Level subjects will be available:

- Digital production, design and development
- Digital business services
- Digital support and services
- Education and childcare
- Design and development for engineering and manufacturing
- Engineering, manufacturing, processing and control
- Maintenance, installation and repair for engineering and manufacturing
- Building services engineering for construction
- Design, surveying and planning for construction
- Onsite construction
- Health
- Science
- Healthcare science
- Management and administration
- Finance
- Accounting

T Levels have been designed with over 250 leading employers, so students can be confident that they will get the skills and knowledge that employers really want - and will be able to progress in their chosen career. All T Level students will complete a 45-day industry placement so they will spend 20% of the course getting on-the-job experience with a real employer.

T Levels also attract UCAS tariff points in line with three A levels. 125 higher education providers have so far said that they will accept them, including 84 universities, of which 12 are members of the Russell Group.

We know that young people and parents want information on all of the options available and how they compare. Clear and helpful information about all post-16 choices including T Levels can be found at gov.uk/get-the-jump.

There is also more detailed information on T Levels available at tlevels.gov.uk/students, including a search function where you can use your postcode to search for T Levels available in your area.

I hope that you will find this information useful, and that you will use the resources linked above to explore all the options available to you or to your child.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP
Secretary of State for Education

Careers Zone



One of the *Careers Zone* highlights this year has been inviting people to join our *drop-in taster sessions* during lunchtimes. It is an informal way of students accessing a variety of different careers that appeal to them. They have proved extremely successful and we are now in the process of finding new opportunities for them to explore from September. If you feel that you could spare an hour to chat about your occupation, no matter what that may be, then please contact me at careerzone@alcesteracademy.org.uk.



Alcester & District Friends of CRUK
30TH ALCESTER GARDEN WALKABOUT
Sunday 26th June 2022
ADMISSION from 12.00 to 5.00pm

Around 20 gardens large and small will be open for viewing behind the ancient houses in the centre of this historic town. Also open the award-winning Malt Mill Lane area and St Nicholas Church.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS
TEAS, REFRESHMENTS AND ICE-CREAMS
PLANTS FOR SALE AT BARGAIN PRICES!

TICKETS £5 EACH
(Accompanied Children under 12 Free)
ON SALE AT OUR STALL IN CHURCH STREET
or in advance from www.cruk-alcester.org.uk

Sorry, but dogs are not allowed in the gardens.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
SUE BLACKBURN
cruk.org TEL 01789 764756

In aid of
CANCER RESEARCH UK

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR
Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales 2089466 and Scotland SC045560.

TEXTACADEMY

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

Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2022

Summer Term ends Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 3.25pm

AUTUMN TERM 2022

School closed

Teacher training days Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th September 2022

Autumn Term begins

Years 7 and 11 only

Wednesday 7th September 2022

Years 8, 9 and 10 only

Thursday 8th September 2022

All students back

Friday 9th September 2022

Half term

Monday 24th October — Friday 28th October 2022

Back to school Monday

31st October 2022

Autumn Term ends

Friday 16th December 2022 at 12.40pm

Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable

Year 11

GCSE Examinations — Monday 16th May — Tuesday 28th June 2022

GCSE Contingency Day — Wednesday 29th June 2022 — all students must be available

Year 9

Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18th July 2022

Year 7

Full Report published to parents/carers — Tuesday 19th July 2022

Dates for your diary – next half term

Saturday 25 th & Sunday 26 th June	KS4 West End Trip
Thursday 30 th June	Celebration Evening. Invited students.
Tuesday 5 th July	New Parents' Evening
Wednesday 6 th July	Year 6 Induction Day
Thursday 14 th July	Sports Day year 7-10
Monday 18 th July	Rewards Trips
Tuesday 19 th July	Finish for the summer holidays at 3.25pm
Thursday 25 th August	GCSE results in school from 8.30am. More detail to follow.

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

PE Practices/Fixtures: week beginning 27/6/22:

Monday 27th June:

Year 9/10 Cricket @ Studley (selection letters issued)

Year 7 & 8 Rounders

Tuesday 28th June:

Year 8 Archery (invitation letters issued)

Year 8 Cricket @ St.Benedicts (selection letters issued)

Wednesday 29th June:

Year 7 & 8 Boys Rounders (match next week, you must attend if you would like to be involved)

Year 9 & 10 Rounders

At the end of the school day come down to the gym and get changed as soon as possible. Normal school PE kit is required.

All practices will run until 4.30pm and are open to everyone in the specified year groups.

For Fixtures a separate team sheet including all the necessary details will be sent out via School Comms.

PRE-LOVED PE KIT

DONATE, RE-USE, GIVE BACK!

**Help the school community
and give back**

Please donate your unwanted
(no longer needed or using)
PE kit, which would then be given
back to students here.

We would particularly welcome
skorts, leggings and socks.

Please give your donations to LSU
or the PE department!

Thank you, *Mrs Powell*



WARRIORS RUGBY CAMPS SUMMER HOLIDAYS

SUMMER BOYS AND GIRLS CAMPS
GIRLS AND BOYS YEARS 2-6 & BOYS YEAR 7-10

EARLY BIRD PRICE UNTIL 1ST JULY 2022

DATE	VENUE	DURATION	TIMINGS	YEAR	EARLY BIRD	FULL PRICE
26 - 27 Jul	Alcester RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
27 - 28 Jul	Bridgnorth RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
2 - 3 Aug	Sixways Stadium	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
9 - 10 Aug	Ledbury RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
15 - 19 Aug	Malvern Residential	5 Days	9:30am-3pm	5-10 Only	N/A	£390
23 - 24 Aug	Shropshire TBC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75

FROM £65 PER PLAYER



01905 459343 - AKINA GONDWE
WARRIORS.CO.UK/RUGBYCAMPS
CAMPS@WARRIORS.CO.UK

WARRIORS COMMUNITY RUGBY



WARRIORS RUGBY CAMPS SUMMER HOLIDAYS

SUMMER WARRIORS WOMEN CAMPS
GIRLS ONLY IN SCHOOL YEARS 7-13

EARLY BIRD PRICE UNTIL 1ST JULY 2022

DATE	VENUE	DURATION	TIMINGS	YEAR	EARLY BIRD	FULL PRICE
2 - 3 Aug	Sixways Stadium	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	7-13	£35	£45
9 - 10 Aug	Burton RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	7-13	£35	£45
23 - 24 Aug	Shropshire TBC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	7-13	£35	£45

FROM £35 PER PLAYER



01905 459343 - AKINA GONDWE
WARRIORS.CO.UK/RUGBYCAMPS
CAMPS@WARRIORS.CO.UK

WARRIORS COMMUNITY RUGBY

NETBALL & RUGBY SUMMER CAMPS

ON SALE NOW!

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LANCASHIRE RUGBY UNION

GILBERT

VODAFONE

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

Super 6 Athletics

On Monday the year 8 & 9 boys took to the track in the South Warwickshire Super 6 Athletics at Stratford. The event sees a team of 6 take part in one track and one field event each. The year 8s came in 4th with the year 9s in 6th, representing two fine performances against some very stiff competition. We're looking forward to next year's event already!



Rounders

At the South Warwickshire year 7 Rounders tournament the girls excelled themselves, playing some fantastic rounders and losing out narrowly in the final. They were unbeaten in all games other than the final and this is a testament to their hard work this year and to the way they have gelled as a team. Well done to all the squad for their excellent efforts.



Football & frisbee golf

National School Sports week saw us trying some different activities with football & frisbee golf on the menu on Wednesday! All students adapted to the new activities quickly and, after 9 holes of frisbee and 9 of football, victory in the frisbee went to Joe, Sophie won the football and Jack took the overall combined title.



Irish Dancing

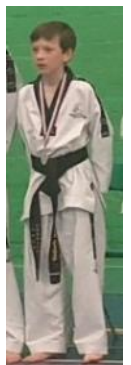
Congratulations to Jessica (year 7) who has recently passed the grade 2 exam for her Irish dancing. As well as having to exhibit her dancing skills, Jessica was also required to learn some Gaelic terminology to achieve her success! We wish Jessica all the best in her pursuit of the next level.

Gymnastics

Fresh from her appearance at the County Athletics Championships, Holly (year 9) has successfully passed her West Midlands Regional Grade 1 in gymnastics recently. Another fantastic achievement!

Tae Kwon Do

A further update on Jacob (year 7), who goes from strength to strength with his TKD, recently winning 1st place in-patterns at Redditch Tigers Taekwon-Do interclub competition. He chose to perform a pattern from the star grades (of which there are three), and he smashed it! Well done again Jacob!



Mr Powell