

Alcester Academy

WEEKLY BULLETIN



26th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon. I hope that you have had a productive week.

We started the week with *Motivational Monday* where we shared over 400 praise emails with you regarding the students. This was such a lovely start to our week. We will continue to alternative this each half term with our *Feel Good Friday* as well!



Young Enterprise collection at the school production of *Beauty and the Beast* last Friday. Thank you all.

End of Term

We are collecting for the local food bank on Thursday 16th December as follows:



Year 7
Instant Mash or
UHT Fruit Juice Cartons

Year 8
Tinned Fruit or
Tinned Custard

Year 9
Shower Gel or Shampoo

Year 10
Pasta Sauce or Tinned meat

Year 11
Instant Coffee or Canned Tuna



On Monday night then, our fantastic Rock Academy took to the stage finally after months of waiting to show us their most recent performances. Thank you if you were

able to attend and support this. The smoke machine was on overtime and there was an array of such wonderful talent. Thanks to Mr Badham for putting this together for us all to enjoy so much. I did post some recordings on Twitter if you missed out this time. One of these has already had over 1000 views, another was re-tweeted by our Minister for Education. Wow!

Road works

Just a reminder that the road works start on Monday 29th November. Mr Dean, Chair of Governors and I will be out to observe the traffic on Monday morning. We have been promised that during busy times, manual traffic controls will be used to help the flow of vehicles.

Children In Need

You raised £34.63 in our impromptu *Children In Need*



with you every
breath of the way



We do appreciate the few comments about the time line for asking for monies for end of term trips. We hope to make the notice period longer next year, and for the summer term trips. Staff were so elated to know that these opportunities could actually happen this year after covid, that we really wanted to offer them our to students. We apologise if you have felt extra pressure from this.

Year 10 Parents' Evening

We are looking forward to seeing year 10 Parents via School Cloud next Thursday evening.

Thank you

Caroline, Phoebe and Ella all in year 7 for being so helpful to Mrs Spicer at lunchtime! So lovely to hear.

News outside school Congratulations Tom

The *Dance Challenge UK* competition was held at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool last weekend, this is becoming the biggest and best loved dance event in the whole of the UK!

Tom's Junior Group dance got 1st place out of a category of 18! Tom was then given a special recognition award after being picked by the judges.



Year 7 Bear Grylls Trip

Thanks to Miss Hammond for leading yesterday's team building trip to the NEC finally! Whilst, a little later in the term than we had hoped for, a great day was had by all. Please see the write up later in the bulletin.

Year 11 Child Development Speaker

Year 11s welcomed speakers from the Brook Advisory Service this week to support their subject revision for the forth coming mocks.

Breakfast Club

We have had no customers this week for Breakfast Club. This is such a shame. We will persevere for a while longer though. 8.15am-8.45am.

Uniform

Just a reminder that boys should be wearing black or dark grey socks. Thank you. Our revised Uniform Policy will be in place by September 2022. This is in response to DfE legislation. The government has published new statutory guidance aimed at making school uniforms more *affordable*, after a legal requirement to do so passed into law earlier this year.

In the interim, we are considering setting up a termly pre-loved uniform store in school. Parents would donate items that children have outgrown for us to donate or sell at a much reduced cost to others. If there are any parents or carers willing to help support this, please contact me head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

What is your child learning?

Thank you to Mr Hall, Head of Performing Arts and Mr Powell, Head of PE for their curriculum over view in this weeks bulletin. This concludes our series to support KS3 parents. Remember, all long term plans can be accessed for every year group on the school website under *Quality of Education*.

We celebrated Geography Awareness Week via assembly with Mrs Stedman this week.

School Counsellors

As many of you will be aware, our School Counsellors do some amazing work with our students. More and more however, GPs are leaning on school to provide this service. Please be aware that we have been overwhelmed with referrals since lockdown and we are doing our best to process all of these. Sessions have to be limited in order to allow for a fair system.

We are very aware that CAMHS (now called RISE) is equally stretched. Parents requiring support are signposted to the Dimensions toolkit to support in the first instance.

<https://dimensions.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/>

Liv's Angels

Please don't forget that you can sponsor an angel for the charities that we are supporting for Olivia Worrallo and her family. This is available now on the Gateway.



We are also selling angels for Asthma UK and Red Wings Sanctuary at the Christmas Fayre at the Greig Hall on Saturday 4th December.



You can become a member of
Stratford Youth Forum!



A great opportunity for our students

I hope you are well. I'd like to introduce myself as the current Co-Chair of Stratford-on-Avon District Youth Forum.

The forum comprises a group of 11-18 year olds (or up to 24 with special educational needs), aiming to support and represent the needs and views of young people within the Stratford-on-Avon District. We're supported by Warwickshire County Council youth workers, and carry out projects and campaigns, often working in partnership with other organisations.

We're currently looking for new members, particularly those towards the lower end of the age range, to join us. Being a member of Stratford Youth Forum is a great way to improve confidence, as well as debating and management skills, as part of a meaningful cause. We hold meetings approximately twice a month, which usually take place online in the evening (though we do have some face-to-face events).

As a school within Stratford-on-Avon District, your students would be welcome to join the forum, and I would be extremely grateful if you could make them aware of this opportunity. I am a sixth form student myself at AGS, and have enjoyed being a member for nearly four years now. If you, or any students, would like to ask a question about the forum, please do not hesitate to email

soayouthforum@gmail.com,

and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Students can find out more about joining here:

<https://www.childfriendlywarwickshire.co.uk/news/article/10/join-stratford-youth-forum>.

Promotional video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOS-td9TsR0>.

We are also on Twitter and Instagram, which can be accessed here: <https://linktr.ee/stratfordforum>.

Best wishes

Alfie Walker
Co-Chair,
Stratford Youth Forum

Finally, I'm delighted to let you know that covid cases in school are still manageable and are not causing huge disruption as follows:

Year 7—2

Year 8—0

Year 9—1

Year 10—1

Year 11—0

Miss Buckthorp is currently making plans to see us all before we break up for Christmas. We're looking forward to this very much and I'm pleased to let you know that she is continuing to make good progress.

I'm wishing you all a restful weekend ahead. As we approach December now, I'm just reflecting on how quickly this term is passing by. We're beginning to make plans for our Church Concert on Wednesday 15th December and some festive fun for the close to the year,

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors
Headteacher



Epraise Updates—past 7 days

Top Scorers—past 7 days:

1	Marijke	7WI	44 points
2	Maya	8SO	39 points
3	Darcie	8SO	20 points
3	Jack	8HL	20 points
5	David	9WE	18 points
6	Callum	9BL	17 points
6	Romano	10MA	17 points
6	Mia	8SO	17 points
6	Finlay	8SO	17 points
10	Isabelle	10MA	16 points

Top Subjects—past 7 days:

1	Maths	927 points
2	Science	751 points
3	Geography	401 points
4	Art	351 points
5	IT	263 points

Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mr Bastock	837 points
2	Mr Bowater	439 points
3	Mr Yarrington	329 points
4	Mr Powell	325 points
5	Mr Burgess	279 points

Top Tutor Groups—past 7 days:

1	8SO	247 points
2	10MA	210 points
3	7WI	209 points
4	11BR	193 points
5	10BI	192 points



WARRIORS RUGBY CAMPS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

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

INCLUDED WITH YOUR CAMP:

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

WARRIORS WOMEN EARLY BIRD FROM £35 PER PLAYER (GREEN ENDS AND DEC)

WARRIORS EARLY BIRD FROM £65 PER PLAYER (GREEN ENDS AND DEC)

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

WARRIORS COMMUNITY RUGBY

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

Dates for your diary this half term

TRIPS

1st December — Year 8 Theatre Trip

13/14th December — Proposed end of year reward trip dates - covid permitting

OTHER EVENTS

Monday 29th November — Year 11 Mocks start. 3:2 days. Timetable attached

Thursday 2nd December — Year 10 Parents' Evening via SCHOOL CLOUD

Thursday 9th December — Year 7 Theatre trip

Friday 10th December — Year 8 German Market trip

Wednesday 15th December — Christmas Concert

Friday 17th December — Non Uniform. Christmas Jumper Day for *Save The Children* and *Asthma UK* (Yes, we all wear Christmas jumpers! It's amazing) and early finish at 12.40pm. BREAK UP.

During this half term, year 8 written reports are due out as well.

Revision Timetable for year 11

WEEK A	Lunchtime	After school (3.30-4.30pm)
Monday	Informal Maths revision	
Tuesday	Informal Maths revision	Maths
Wednesday	DT	English
Thursday	Chemistry (Br) or Biology for Triple Alternate weeks - see dept lists	Biology (Cp) or Chemistry (Br) for Triple alternate weeks - see dept lists
Friday	Combined Science	

WEEK B	Lunchtime	After school (3.30-4.30pm)
Monday	Art/Photography	
Tuesday	Art/Photography	PTE
Wednesday	German (MFL2) Performing Arts/Music	iMedia and Computer Science Performing Arts/Music
Thursday	French (MFL1)	Art/Photography
Friday	Geography	

KS3 PE @Alcester Academy



During their time at Alcester Academy students are offered a broad range of individual and team activities that encompass the development and refinement of skill and its application in physical activity, as well as providing students with the knowledge and understanding of how to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. We dedicate ourselves to improving the performance and knowledge of our students, from our elite standard athletes who are performing at representative level to those who simply enjoy physical activity and the unquestionable benefits it provides. We believe that the broad range of activities covered, coupled with the opportunity to experience examination PE taster sessions, allows pupils to build their confidence within the subject and make an informed decision when choosing their options at the end of year 8.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- develop competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities.
- are physically active for sustained periods of time.
- engage in competitive sports and activities.
- lead healthy, active lives.

To achieve these aims we focus on the following essential skills and processes in P.E. that pupils need to learn to make progress.



Accurate replication

Students should be able to:

- accurately replicate basic skills.
- develop their ability to fine tune these skills to suit the environment in which they are engaged.
- understand that different sports demand different skill types.
- adapt their skills to the needs of the activity.



Developing physical and mental capacity

Students should be able to:

- develop their physical strength, stamina, speed and flexibility to cope with the demands of different activities.
- develop their mental determination and resilience to succeed.

Developing skills/performances in physical activity

Students should be able to:

- refine and adapt skills and techniques.
- develop the range of skills they use to improve the precision, control, and fluency of their techniques.

Making and applying decisions

Students should be able to:

- select and use tactics, strategies and compositional ideas effectively in different creative, competitive and challenge-type contexts.
- refine and adapt ideas and plans in response to changing circumstances.
- plan and implement what needs practicing to be more effective in performance.
- recognize hazards and make decisions about how to control any risks to themselves and others.

Making informed choices about healthy, active lifestyles

Students should be able to:

- identify the types of activity they are suited to.
- identify the types of role they would like to take on.
- make choices about their involvement in healthy physical activity.



Evaluating and improving

Students should be able to:

- reflect and analyse performances, identifying strengths and weaknesses.
- make decisions about what to do to improve their performance and the performance of others and act on these decisions in future performances.
- be clear about what they want to achieve in their own work and what they have actually achieved.

Each of the above elements is weaved into an extensive Key Stage 3 curriculum. Throughout the Key Stage, students will be given the opportunity to experience a breadth of sports including Rugby, Football, Netball, Hockey, Badminton, Basketball, Dance, Gymnastics, Fitness, Table Tennis, Cricket, Rounders, OAA activities, Volleyball, Tennis and Athletics.

The range, breath of our curriculum is designed to ensure that we immerse students into a comprehensive diet of physical activities and sport, in the hope that we engage, excite and develop excellence in our students within the subject.

Students cover a six lesson block of each sport and through this we aim to develop a wide range of skills and the ability to use tactics, strategies and compositional ideas to perform successfully. When they are performing, they think about what they are doing, analyse the situation and make decisions. They also reflect on their own and others' performances and find ways to improve them. E.G. Pupils in year 7 look at the effects of warming up and cooling down the body during exercise and develop the knowledge and understanding of what would be involved in planning their own activities. Pupils develop a wide range of skills and the ability to use tactics, strategies and compositional ideas to perform successfully. When they are

performing, they think about what they are doing, analyse the situation and make decisions. They reflect on

their own and others' performances and find ways to improve them. As a result, they develop the confidence to take part in different physical activities and learn about the value of healthy, active lifestyles. Discovering what they like to do, what their aptitudes are at school, and how and where to get involved in physical activity helps them make informed choices about lifelong physical activity. E.G. In Year 8 more emphasis is placed on pupils to take different roles and responsibilities, including leadership, coaching and officiating.

To achieve an accurate assessment of individual pupils we formatively assess at the end of each module to ensure that whole school data and assessment has the holistic progress of our pupils at its heart. We assess throughout the module to monitor progress/issues in addition to the final assessment. Data is used to identify and document below and above par performance, for pupil and teacher, which, in turn, triggers a series of interventions such as extra-curricular provision and recapping of certain identified skills.

We believe our wide ranging curriculum of activities allows pupils to find "their" sport and gives them the opportunity to improve their skills and decision making in a variety of sporting contexts. It is designed to allow students to experience first-hand a number of different sporting disciplines and, through these, develop as a performer in terms of evaluative skills, mental capacity and knowledge of what constitutes a healthy, active lifestyle.

Mr Powell



Performing Arts - Key Stage 3

The performing arts department delivers 1 hour of Music and 1 hour of Performing Arts (formally Drama) lessons each week as part of the key stage 3 curriculum. We aim to study a different topic every term and within these topics there are opportunities for many different performance skills to be experienced and learnt about. Pupils have the opportunity to extend their skills and understanding in one of the three aspects with unlimited opportunities in lessons and outside of the classroom. This we feel feeds well into the different pathways pupils can explore at key stage 4.



Topics studied at key stage 3 in Performing Arts

	Performing Arts
Year 7	Introduction to Performing Arts Alice in Wonderland The Seven Ages of Man
Year 8	Comedy Horror Theatre in Education Circus Skills Extended Performance Piece

We believe Performing Arts at key stage 3 should give pupils the opportunity to explore a wide variety of performance art through many different experiences whilst also learning about the cultural importance both at the time of their inception and in today's society. We aim to ensure all pupils gain a good understanding of the core values of performing arts and develop pupils' self-confidence.

We believe Music at key stage 3 should give pupils an opportunity to explore many different types of music through many different means whilst also learning something about the cultural and historical importance of these different genres. Our aim is to ensure all pupils gain knowledge, skills and experience in listening to music, performing music and composing music and gain confidence in using both traditional methods as well as technology to access the curriculum.

In order to create an enriching experience we teach many different types of performing arts and approach them in a variety of different ways. The approaches tend to fall into one of three pathways; acting, dance or musical theatre but are not restricted to these disciplines. Performing arts at key stage 3 is assessed continuously as pupils progress throughout each topic developing their understanding, extending their existing skills and gaining new ones. At the end of each topic there is usually an opportunity for pupils to showcase their skills and understanding through a practical performance as well as the use of an 'assessment book' to reflect on what they have learnt in a written format. Performing arts uses cloud-based technology to watch and listen to pupils' performances as well as store pupils' written responses.



Topics studied at key stage 3 in Music

	Music
Year 7	Introduction to Music at Alcester Academy A Cappella Singing and Beatboxing African Music Introduction to Music Technology Ukuleles The Keyboard
Year 8	Blues Music Christmas Music and songs Next Level Music Technology Reggae Music Musical Futures Pop Music

Whilst exploring these topics at key stage 3 in music we approach all of them through three pathways; active listening, performing and creating. Music at key stage 3 is assessed continuously as pupils progress throughout each topic developing their understanding, extending their existing skills and gaining new ones.

Performing Arts and Music is supplemented in year 7 and 8 by a huge range of extra-curricular activities from Music Tech Club to Dance to singing and acting activities after school and during lunch times.

The Performing Arts department is also passionate about providing opportunities for pupils to have experiences outside of school and so we offer a range of trips to theatres and live performances.

Mr Hall



VACANCY—Alcester Academy

Teacher of Mathematics

Required for January 2022

Full time Maternity Cover until 31st August 2021

Closing date Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 5pm



Alcester Academy - Mathematics Department

At Alcester Academy, teachers enjoy the freedom to deploy their individual skills, and talents, whilst conveying a passion for their subject and delivering excellent outcomes.

The Mathematics Department is friendly, hardworking and committed to making learning maths an interesting and enjoyable experience for all our students.

The department is comprised of experienced teachers and a dedicated HLTA. The maths department is proud of the progress that students make. As a team, we have an established record of excellent results; results in 2021 far exceeded National Averages: 91% at grades 4+, 74% at grades 95+. Maths is taught across both KS3 and KS4 in groups that are set by mathematical ability.

For further details please visit the school website:

<https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/academy-information/vacancies>

Year 11 Mock Examinations

Date and Time	Subject	Duration
Monday 29th November		
8.50am	English Language Paper 1	1hr 45
1.20pm	French Reading/Listening F&H	45mins/1hr 35/45mins
Tuesday 30th November		
8.50am	English Literature Paper 1	1hr 45mins
1.20pm	iMedia Computer Science Paper 1 Hospitality & Catering	1hr 15 1hr 30 1hr
Wednesday 1st December		
8.50am	Maths Paper 1 Non Calculator	1hr 30
1.20pm	Biology	1hr 15/1hr 45
Thursday 2nd December		
8.50am	English Literature Paper 2	1hr 45
1.20pm	French Writing F&H Media Paper 1	1hr/1hr 15 1hr 30
Friday 3rd December		
8.50am	English Language Paper 2	1hr 45
1.20pm	History Paper 1 – Germany 2 x clash students Media Paper 1	1hr 1hr 30
Monday 6th December		
8.50am	Maths Paper 2 Calculator	1hr 30
1.20pm	German Reading/Listening F&H	45mins/1hr 35/45mins
Tuesday 7th December		
8.50am	Chemistry	1hr 15/1hr 45
1.20pm	Geography Paper 1 - Physical	1hr
Wednesday 8th December		
8.50am	Child Development RE Computer Science Paper 2	1hr 15 2hrs 1hr 30
1.20pm	History Paper 2 – Health & The People	1hr
Thursday 9th December		
8.50am	Maths Paper 3 Calculator	1hr 30
1.20pm	German Writing F&H Sport	1hr/1hr 15 1hr 15
Friday 10th December		
8.50am	Physics	1hr 15/1hr 45
1.20pm	Geography Paper 2 - Human	1hr
Monday 13th December		
8.50am	Media Paper 2	1hr 30
1.20pm	No exams	

Review of Beauty and the Beast

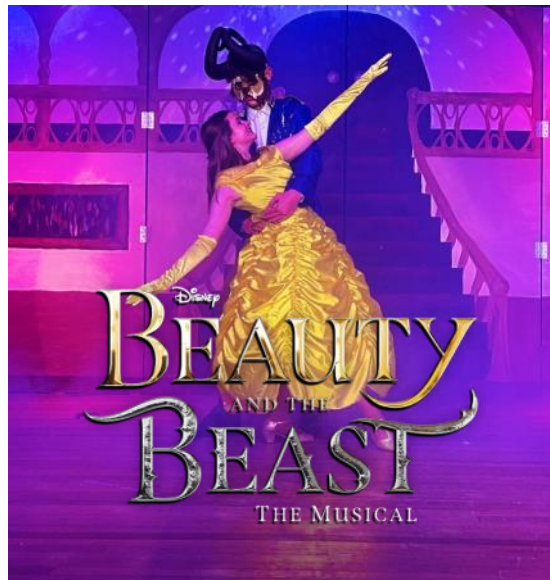
Firstly, I wanted to say how amazing it looked with so many cast members on stage in the big song numbers. It really felt like a bustling village or a crew of servants! I know how dedicated each member of the cast was to the rehearsals and performances and it really paid off.

This year the props and costumes were outstanding and really added to the magic of the musical. This specific musical has so many massive numbers to pull off and I think we managed it very well. I really liked the fact that there were enough parts for everyone and everyone was included, the acting and interaction between characters really added to the atmosphere.

Being a big crew, I think we gave each other confidence and made lots of new friends. I was awed by the diversity of everyone's voices and enjoyed the uniqueness each person brought to their character. I thought the dancing and tricks really stepped up a level from previous years and was very surprised by lots of people's hidden talents brought to the surface by the show. I reckon we all benefited from the show this year, especially this year, so thank you to the cast and crew and all who contributed to

the show - in the audience or in the costume/props/scenery departments. I will certainly never forget this experience, definitely one of the best shows ever!

Written By Hannah, year 9

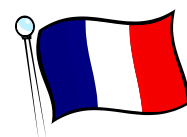


CONGRATULATIONS OUR LINGUISTS OF THE MONTH

Year	French	German
7	Mia	Faith
8	Lily	Maya
9	Emily	Carys
10	Mary	Jake
11	Matilda	Millie



gute Arbeit



Bien fait

Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable September 2021 – July 2022

Year 11

GCSE Mock Exams 1 — weeks commencing Monday 29th November & 6th December 2021
Mock Results & Parents' Evening — Thursday 6th January 2022 - 4-6.30pm
GCSE Mock Exams 2 — weeks beginning Monday 28th February & 7th March 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
GCSE Examinations — Monday 16th May — Tuesday 28th June 2022
(these dates are provisional and will be confirmed by the awarding bodies imminently)
GCSE Contingency Day — Wednesday 29th June 2022 - all students must be available

Year 10

Data Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 1st December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 2nd December 2021 – 4-6.30pm
Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 10th & 17th January 2022
Exam Results Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 17th February 2022
Internal MFL Speaking Exams — week commencing Monday 20th June 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 9

Data Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 15th December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 24th March 2022 – 4-6.30pm
Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 28th March & 4th April 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Friday 20th May 2022
Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18th July 2022

Year 8

Full Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 15th December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 3rd March 2022 - 4-6.30pm
In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 14th March 2022
Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
Options Evening — Wednesday 4th May 2022 — time tbc
Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 7

Attitude to Learning Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 15th December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 17th February 2022 – 4-6.30pm
Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 13th June 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 20th July 2022

Term Dates 2021—2022

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Autumn Term ends Friday 17th December 2021 at 12.40pm

SPRING TERM 2022

*School closed Tuesday 4th January 2022
Teacher training day*

Spring Term begins Wednesday 5th January 2022

Half Term Monday 21st – Friday 25th February 2022
Back to school Monday 28th February 2022

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 8th April 2022

SUMMER TERM 2022

Summer Term begins Monday 25th April 2022

May Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 2022

Half Term Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022
Back to school Monday 6th June 2022

Summer Term ends Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 12.40pm

2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

School Attendance — up to 25.11.21

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
91.7%	92.9%	92.0%	90.0%	89.1%	91.9%

This week's top Tutor Groups

7TY – 95.6%, 8PW – 98.5%, 9YA – 97.4%, 10MA – 91.9% and 11HK – 97.1%

Well done! Mrs Hodges

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Mr Men and Little Miss Maths winners



Maths Magic

The numeracy leaders have started running maths intervention for the lower years. Thank you! And we also celebrated Fibonacci Day with year 7 and 8 on Tuesday to produce some fabulous Fibonacci spirals.

Mr Dyer



Bear Grylls Adventure!

On Thursday 25th November, we took 130 year 7 students to The Bear Grylls Adventure in the NEC in Birmingham. Throughout the day, the students and some of the staff, were able to participate in a range of adventurous and exciting activities, such as archery, an assault course and for the bigger thrill seekers: the high ropes!

In Archery students learnt how to set up the bow and arrow correctly, before learning how to shoot from a variety of positions. There were even some friendly competitions to see who could score the most points, with even the staff showing off some impressive scores!

Then it was time to tackle the high ropes. After receiving their harnesses and some reassurance from the staff there, it was time to brave the heights. I was so impressed with how brave the students were facing the challenges of the different



courses and the encouragement they gave each other throughout the activity.

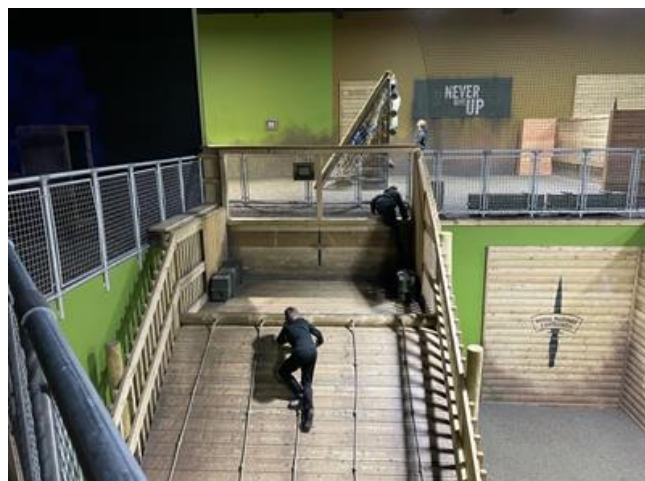
Additionally, during the break between the two main activities, the students were able to participate in an assault course, consisting of a range of different obstacles and trials. Again, it was lovely to see so

many students challenge themselves to have a go and support each other.

There were even opportunities for some very intense races between students and even staff, with a special shout out to Marijke who beat almost everybody, including Mr Badham!

Overall, the trip was a tremendous success and I want to say a massive thank you to the students whose behaviour was exemplary. They really were great representatives of our school. I would also like to say a special thank you to all the staff that supported the trip on the day and helped organise it, as without them it would not have been possible, and to all the parents for their support. And finally, a big thank you to the staff at Bear Grylls adventure who were a fantastic support to our students. Looking forward to next year.

Miss Hammond



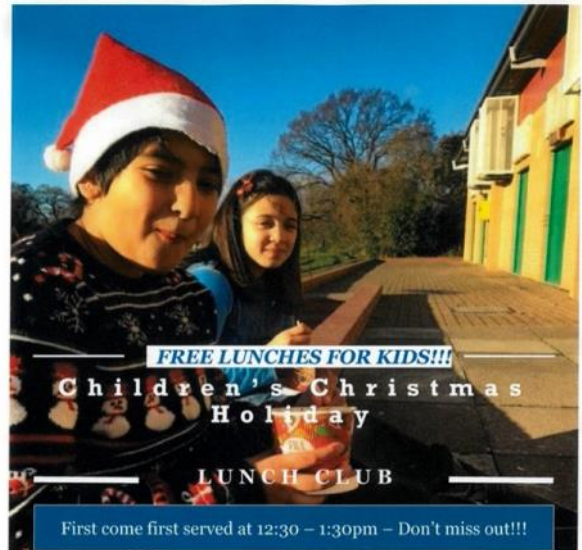


COOK AND EAT YOUR TEA

Learn how to make a simple nutritious meal and pudding from scratch

NEXT 4 WEEK COURSE – TEATIME FOR FAMILIES – STARTS
WEDNESDAY 12TH JAN 2022 4:30 UNTIL 6:30PM
AT THE DEPOT (ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE) ALCESTER

For more information or to book on the course, please contact:
Wendy Sherwood, Health and Wellbeing Coordinator at Alcester Town Council. Tel: 01789 766084 Email: info@alcester-tc.gov.uk
Free to attend Supported by Hillers



@The Depot **Eric Payne Community Centre** **Wednesday 22nd December**

Alcester Christmas Community Concert

The Greig Leisure Centre, Alcester
Saturday 11th December 2021 at 7pm

Featuring:
Alcester Junior Drama
Alcester Male Voice Choir
Irina Chagunava (Classical pianist)
The Studio 17 Tap Dancers
Worcester Ukulele Club
With
Audience participation singing carols

Compere: David Parkes Town Crier
Producer: Judith Land BEM



(The audience is strongly encouraged to wear face coverings)

Ticket Applications:

Tickets are free for Alcester residents courtesy Alcester Town Council. To apply please email media@alcester-tc.gov.uk giving contact details and if you would like one or two tickets. Closing date for applications is November 20th.

If more applications are received than tickets available, there will be a draw and those successful will be notified by November 27th. No correspondence will be entered into regarding ticket allocation.

WARWICKSHIRE CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

IF YOU BUY A TREE WITH US, WE WILL DONATE 10% OF THE VALUE OF THAT TREE BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL!

HELP US HELP YOU!

COME AND START A FAMILY TRADITION BY CHOOSING YOUR PERFECT TREE FROM OUR FIELD

OX15 6NP, NEAR T4SOE

OPENING WEEKEND 27/28TH NOVEMBER
OPEN TILL THE 23RD OF DECEMBER 2021

ALL WE NEED YOU TO DO IS MENTION THE SCHOOL NAME. IT'S THAT SIMPLE!

www.warwickshirechristmastrees.co.uk



A MAGICAL WALKING TRAIL TO LIGHT UP OUR STREETS



WINDOW WANDERLAND

ALCESTER 15 JANUARY to 22 JANUARY 2022

- A fun community event that everyone can join in
- Take part in a unique event lit up by displays in local windows & gardens
- Go on an evening walk with a map to guide you and see your neighbourhood in a whole new light!

windowwanderland.com



COMPETITION

The About Us **poetry** and **coding** competition is now open for entries. You can enter a twenty line poem or a 90 second Scratch project, or both.

The winning entries will be selected by a multidisciplinary panel of experts, who can't wait to read your poems and watch your animations. As well as seeing your work featured in the live show, winners will receive lots of other amazing prizes, including goodies and talent development opportunities from The Poetry Society and Stemettes.

www.aboutus.earth



- ◊ The competition is open to anyone aged 4-18
- ◊ It is completely FREE to enter and you can submit as many entries as you wish.
- ◊ Entries should be on the theme 'connectivity and the universe' – we want you to think about the infinite ways we are connected to the universe, the natural world, and one another.



Deadline for entries 19th December 2021

Poetry queries – aboutus@poetrysociety.org.uk
Coding queries – aboutus@stemettestfutures.org

Well Connected





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- Using Social Media - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snap Chat and Whats App

- Email, Texting, Skype, YouTube, Radio Online and Facetime

- Office software – Excel, Word, Cyber Safety



Like to find out more about Laptops? Smart Phones? Tablets? Then come along to the Alcester Computer Group and talk to our friendly volunteers who will try their best to help you out. Everyone welcome - Free to attend - just turn up.

Meeting at The Alcester Unionist Club, 46 High Street, London House. On the second and fourth Wednesday of the month 10am - Midday Call Wendy for more info: 01789 766084



SUPPORTING ARDEN FOOD BANK

We're collecting

Thursday 16th December

upon entry to school

<p><i>Year 7</i></p> <p>Instant Mash or UHT Fruit Juice Cartons</p>	<p><i>Year 8</i></p> <p>Tinned Fruit or Tinned Custard</p>	<p><i>Year 9</i></p> <p>Shower Gel or Shampoo</p>
<p><i>Year 10</i></p> <p>Pasta Sauce or Tinned Meat</p>	<p><i>Year 11</i></p> <p>Instant Coffee or Canned Tuna</p>	<p><i>Staff</i></p> <p>Toilet Rolls or Sponge Puddings</p>

Help support your local food bank—thank you!

WEAR NON UNIFORM IN EXCHANGE

COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN AGED 12-15



**Coventry and
Warwickshire Partnership**
NHS Trust

COVID-19 vaccination clinics are now available for children aged 12-15 who have not had their first dose.

Please note, if your young person has had a positive COVID-19 test, they need to wait 12 weeks before attending a vaccination clinic. The 12 weeks start from the date they had their PCR test. Please pre-book their vaccination via the links below at your preferred location. They will be given one dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccination resources for children and young people are available on the government website in a variety of languages, Braille and Easy Read. These [resources](#) are to help children, young people and their parents or guardians make an informed decision about whether to take up the offer of the COVID-19 vaccination.

Vaccinating children can help stop the spread of COVID-19 to other people, including within schools. COVID-19 is usually mild in most children, but it can make some children unwell. One dose of a COVID-19 vaccine gives good protection against your child getting seriously ill.



COVID-19 Vaccination clinics

Northgate House - Warwick

When: Every Saturday and Sunday

Location: Cape Rd, Northgate South Side, Warwick CV34 4JH

Times: First Appointment: 10:00, Last Appointment: 15:55

How to Book: <https://www.swiftqueue.co.uk> - Northgate House

Coventry Central Library

When: Every Wednesday & Saturday

Location: Smithford Way, Coventry, CV1 1FY

Times: Wednesday: 15:30 to 17:55, Saturday: 10:00 to 15:55

How to Book: <https://www.swiftqueue.co.uk> - Coventry Central Library

Bedworth Civic Hall

When: Daily

Location: Civic Hall High Street, Bedworth, CV12 8N

Times: Monday to Friday 16:00 to 19:30,

Saturday and Sunday 08:30 to 19:30

How to Book: [National Booking - Covid Vaccination Link](#)

The coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines are safe and effective. If you have any questions, please speak to a clinician at the vaccination centre.

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.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Next week students will be receiving their new timetables for the spring extra curricular activities . Some brand new exciting clubs are on offer and student will have an opportunity to sign up for these clubs during tutor.



SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

PE Practices/Fixtures: week beginning 29/11/21:

Monday 29th November:

Year 7 Netball @ AGS (Invitation letters issued)

Year 7/8 Basketball

Tuesday 30th November:

Year 8 Archery (Invitation letters issued)

Wednesday 1st December:

Year 9/10 Netball

Year 9 Basketball

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 parentmail.

VACANCY—Alcester Academy Lunchtime Supervisor



We are currently seeking reliable staff to join our team of lunchtime supervisors, working 7.5 hours a week, term time only. Times may vary according to academy activities throughout the academic year. Currently hours are temporarily increased to cover Covid-19 academy need and are expended to approx. 3 hours daily covering mid-morning break and lunchtimes. This increase will be managed on a monthly basis.

Post Level Band A £9.25 per hour

This post is temporary 12 months in the first instance due to COVID – 19

Closing date for applications is Friday 3rd December at 12 noon

If you are interested in this post, please visit the Academy website www.alcesteracademy.org.uk for further academy information and an application form please email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.