

Alcester Academy Weekly BULLETIN



28th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Saturday saw our year 10s in school as a base for one of their first D of E practise walks. Thanks to Mrs Harrison and Resilient for supporting this with the students. The students gain so much from being part of this programme:



- *This programme taught me to manage my time effectively, be self-motivated and enjoy every moment for what it is worth, because moments like these don't come back.*
- *After two years of doing the Duke of Ed Award Programme, I am an aspiring 15 year old, ready to advocate for those in need.*
- *It was truly an eye-opening and amazing experience to be fully immersed in nature. There were moments where I questioned my decision, but looking back now, going on the Journey was one of the best decisions of my life.*

www.dukeofed.org/about-us/testimonials/



What's inside this week

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Thanks to Austin in year 7 for writing a super report after Neurodiversity Week in school. I enjoyed reading this very much and hope that you did too.

Congratulations to Alcester Rock Academy

We held a wonderful evening at school on Tuesday night celebrating the great progress of our musicians. I am very grateful if you were able to spare the time to attend. What a fabulous night with some exemplary talent and fantastic tunes. Huge thanks to Mr Hall and Mr Badham, who gave up his birthday evening, for our students! Happy belated birthday, Mr Badham, from all of us.



Good Luck year 7s

...for their first exam week. Thank you for your hard work, revision and commitment.

Boys' trousers

We are constantly trying to work on our female students not rolling up their skirts. The latest craze seems to be the boys wearing a very low rise trousers so that their underwear becomes exposed, or, they are choosing to wear PE shorts underneath trousers causing the trousers to rip. If you could address this situation at home, I'd be most grateful. Thank you as always.

Smartphone Free Childhood

Following recent updates in the bulletin, I will continue to keep you updated on the work that we are doing with Smartphone Free Childhood. All of our year 6 parents for September entry have been invited to an information evening here at the school on 7th May. After Easter, I will release this

opportunity to existing parents also. Smartphone Free Childhood are coming in to school to present their research to parents. I'm excited to host this meeting.

In the interim, you may be interested in an article that was released this week in the press:

[Warwickshire parents from 150 schools sign phone-ban pledge - BBC News](#)



Sports Awards Evening 2025

Invitations have now gone out for the 2025 Sports Awards Evening on 10th April. We're looking forward to Katie-Jemima Yeats-Brown joining us as the special guest. Katie-Jemima is a Commonwealth Judo medallist, and an Olympian. We are extremely excited to host her visit at the Academy.



Next week, we welcome the Berlin trip back, we are holding our first Three Rivers Alliance Careers Fayre at The Crown Plaza in Stratford, we step into EID and Options Taster Week, Warwickshire Secondary Book Award Final at King's High, Warwick, there are year 11 performing arts assessments, year 9 Parents' Evening and then Bingo to conclude the week on Friday! Phew! Would you believe then that our GCSE MFL Speaking Exams then start the following week. Yes, for real!



Non-Uniform Today

Thanks for a huge effort today. I will report how much we have raised for Acorns and Shakespeare Hospices in next week's edition. We are also very grateful to year 7s for the chocolate donations for the Friends of Alcester Academy.

acorns
children's hospice



"FRIENDS"
OF
ALCESTER ACADEMY



And finally, wishing all of our mums a very special day on Sunday, and sending kind thoughts to those who will experience a more difficult weekend ahead.

Kind regards
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher



Our Whole Staff – 2025: A Team United for Success!

Year 8 Students Explore Real-World Maths at Stratford Racecourse

Year 8 students visited Stratford Racecourse last week for a maths trip that brought real-world applications of mathematics to life. The day included three key activities: in the Weighing Room, students learned how jockeys' weights are measured and practiced converting their own weight between imperial and metric systems.

In the Parade Ring, they used trundle wheels to calculate how many horses could fit around the ring, while discussing factors like human error.

The Track Walk gave students insight into race distances and horse jumping, with a hands-on demonstration of the handicap system.

To finish, students tried riding a mechanical horse, experienced a VR race, and competed in a plank challenge to see if they could qualify as professional jockeys. It was a fun and educational day, showing how maths is used in the world of racing!



RSE Consultation 2025

Please review our consultation on the Relationships & Sex Education (RSE) Policy. This is an opportunity for you to share your views on this aspect of our curriculum.

To participate, please visit our website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk.

You can also find the Department for Education's statutory guidance on RSE here: [Relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and health education - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education)

If you would like to share any feedback, please contact us via email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk. Thank you.

Year 11 STEM trip to Silverstone!



Year 11 enjoyed a fantastic STEM trip to Silverstone. The aim of the trip was to gain a better understanding of how modern materials are used in Formula 1. Our students got to hold parts of an F1 car made from materials such as carbon fibre, Kevlar, Nomex and titanium.

Whilst we were there, Porsche was also there, testing their cars for an upcoming race! This was

exciting to see the track in use and to understand the layout and safety features. We heard a lot about the history of Silverstone and how F1 has become what it is today. It was interesting to see the new developments happening there too.

After our tour of the track, we got to visit the gift shop and the interactive museum. The museum was fantastic, showing how

the design of cars, clothing, and materials have developed over time.

We ended the day in the special-effects cinema for the ultimate lap of Silverstone!

Miss Wincup



Endangerlings—Award Winning YE Team!



Following the Young Enterprise Warwickshire and Coventry Trade Fair held at The Royal Priors, Leamington Spa, two awards were up for grabs: Best Product and Best Trade Stand. This was based on a *Mystery Shopper* sent to evaluate the teams at the fair. We are proud to be able to say that the Endangerlings Team won both awards!



The Mystery Shopper had this to say: *“Just ‘WOW!’ Such professionalism and passion for your product. A thorough, well thought through game. The keyrings an added bonus and a definite pull to your stand. It appears nothing has been left unturned. An enthusiastic team with such evidence of hard work shining through. The information on the laptops an added bonus leaving customers fully informed and keen to buy. Well done and good luck in the competition.”*

This has been an incredible experience for the team, and a fantastic way to launch our product.

The team now runs the Endangerlings Club on Friday at lunchtime in PE1. We encourage students who have an interest in tabletop games to come and learn to play. If they like what they see, then starter deck products (Polar and Savannah variants) are available for purchase at £5, which students can continue to use to play at the club.

Future support for these products will be available in the near future. This will be released alongside three other Biomes for students to collect and battle with!



Team *Endangerlings!*



Dates for your diary

Year 9 Parents' Evening—Thursday 3rd April
 Friends of Alcester Academy Bingo Night—Friday 4th April
 Year 11 PA external assessment—starting Thursday 3rd April
 Year 11 MFL speaking exams—starting Monday 7th April
 Year 8 SLD Talking Heads—Tuesday 8th April
 Year 11 AGS 6th form interviews—Wednesday 9th April
 Year 11 David Hyner visit—Thursday 10 April
 Sports Awards Night—Thursday 10th April

This is not the complete list of events by any means.

Parents' Evenings 2024-25

Thursday 3rd April 2025	Year 9 Parents' Evening. SchoolCloud
Thursday 1st May 2025	Year 8 Options Evening. Live in school
Thursday 12th June 2025	Year 7 Parents' Evening. SchoolCloud



Casual Driver

Casual Driver Required Hourly Rate £13.74

Closing date: Thursday 10th April at 12 noon

Starting: As soon as possible

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

The Post

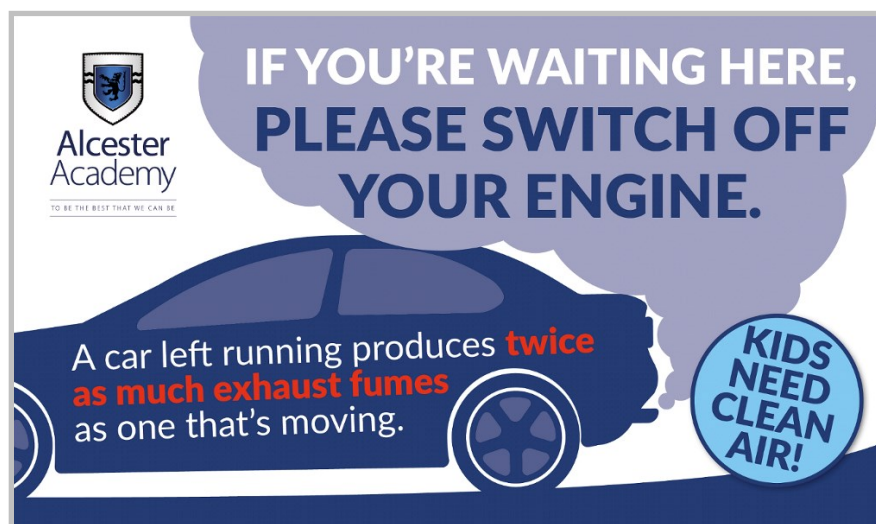
Driver required to transport students in years 7-11 from addresses in Alcester and Bidford to Alternative Education Providers in Warwickshire. Morning and afternoon collections required. Timetable of requirements will vary.

Relevant driving skills and valid licence allowing the post holder to drive a "D1" size vehicle is essential. The successful candidate will need to be prepared to complete a minibus driving test organised by the Academy.

Application Process

Interested applicants should hold a clean driving licence and be subject to a full DBS check. Could suit retired person. Please email the school if you are interested, with a full CV admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post. For shortlisted candidates, please be aware that online searches may be done as part of due diligence check.



Epraise Leaderboard—for the past 7 days

Top Students—past 7 days:

1	Betsy	9CR	Oversley	25 points
2	Connor	7TN	Oversley	24 points
2	Xena	11GO	Greville	24 points
4	Harry	9GA	Oversley	23 points
4	Eva	9PA	Ragley	23 points
4	Tom	9YA	Billesley	23 points
4	Evie	11MR	Greville	23 points
8	Min-Seo	9GA	Oversley	22 points
8	Bob	9GA	Ragley	22 points
8	Oscar	9YA	Ragley	22 points

Top House—past 7 days:

1	Billesley	1635 points
2	Oversley	1630 points
3	Ragley	1590 points
4	Greville	1541 points

Top Subjects—past 7 days:

1	English	867 points
2	Art	494 points
3	Maths	464 points
4	French	423 points
5	Science	306 points

Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mr Yarrington	454 points
2	Mrs Gerner	408 points
3	Mrs Weatherley	378 points
4	Mrs Hirji	353 points
5	Miss Wincup	316 points

Top Tutors—past 7 days:

1	7WI	336 points
2	11MR	331 points
3	7TN	308 points
4	9PA	304 points
5	7KO	295 points



Attendance News

Whole School Attendance this week is 94.6%

Top tutors this week:

7RA and 7WI with 97.3% attendance each

8AN with 97.6% attendance

9TGA with 96.9% attendance

10MO with 94.8% attendance

11GO with 96.7% attendance

If your child is absent from school, please inform the Attendance Officer, Mrs Louise Hatcher, of the reason before 9.30am each day.

This can be done through SchoolComms, by calling 01789 762285, or by emailing louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Thank you, *Mrs Hatcher*



If a pupil is ten minutes late to school or lessons each day, they will miss seven days of learning over a year.



DfE data shows that pupils with more than 95% attendance achieve better GCSE results!

Alcester Academy Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2025

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 11th April 2025 at 12.40pm

SUMMER TERM 2025

Summer Term begins Monday 28th April 2025

School closed Friday 2nd May 2025—Teacher training day

May Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 2025

Half Term Monday 26th – Friday 30th May 2025

Back to school Monday 2nd June 2025

School closed Friday 27th June 2025—Teacher training day

Summer Term ends Friday 18th July 2025 at 12.40pm

Year 11 Revision Timetables—Week A and Week B



PHYSICS & MATHS TUTOR

WEEK A	Lunch 1.50-2.20	After school 3.30-4.15
Monday	Biology Clinic in S6 <i>Study space - PE1</i>	
Tuesday	Media Studies Catch Up <i>Study space - English department rooms</i> History	English
Wednesday	Science - sets 3 and 4 <i>Science rooms</i>	French DT Computer Science
Thursday	ICT (iMedia) <i>Study space - English department</i> Religious Studies	Maths German (Higher)
Friday	Geography intervention <i>Study space - maths department (M3)</i>	Physics triple award sets 1 and 2

WEEK B	Lunch 1.50-2.20	After school 3.30-4.15
Monday	<i>Study space - PE1</i>	
Tuesday	Media Studies Catch Up Chemistry clinic in S1 <i>Study space - English department rooms</i> History	Art/photography for exam prep
Wednesday	Science - sets 1 and 2	French DT Computer Science
Thursday	ICT (iMedia) <i>Study space - English department</i> Religious Studies	German (Foundation) Art/photography for exam prep
Friday	Geography intervention <i>Study space - maths department (M3)</i>	Physics triple award sets 1 and 2

These timetables may be subject to change.

*** SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS ***

**This week's Sport:
Year 10 Football v Studley**

Year 11 Football v Kenilworth

Year 11 travelled to Kenilworth on Monday to play out the quarter final of the Coventry Telegraph Cup.

The team were in good spirits ahead of the game and determined to better their performance against Kenilworth from earlier in the season where they suffered a heavy defeat in the District Cup. A brilliant first half performance saw Alcester trail 1-0 at the break, a lapse in concentration from a corner kick allowed Kenilworth to score from close range. Our team rallied again at half-time and went out for the second half full of endeavour to stay in the tie. As the match progressed we unfortunately suffered a number of injuries and with an already depleted squad Kenilworth ran away with the match winning 4-0.

The scoreline and performance in particular was a definite improvement from the previous match, and our year 11 team can feel very proud to reach the quarter final of this cup competition—a first for Alcester Academy! Well done all!

Our year 10 football team played Studley at the end of last week in a competitive fixture. It was a closely fought contest with the match finishing 1-1. It was brilliant to see seven year 9 students represent the year 10 team and contribute to a brilliant team performance against one of the stronger U15 teams in South Warwickshire. Well done to all students who represented the Academy in this fixture!



This Week's Sport




****THIS WEEKS SPORT**:
W/B 31/3/25**




Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	U14 Girls Football v Studley Year 9 Netball v Kineton	Home Stratford
Tuesday	Archery Club (Selected)	Gym
Wednesday	Year 7, 8 and 9 Rugby - Gloucester Rugby coach	Field
Thursday	No clubs – Year 9 Parents Evening	

Lunchtime Sport



SPRING 2 LUNCHTIME SPORT



- Lunchtime sports clubs to start w/b Wednesday 3rd March on a Monday and Thursday
- Lunchtime sport will follow a set timetable each half-term and run from 1.45-2.15pm (4:1)
- PE kit is not required to participate but you must have suitable footwear to be allowed into the gym

w/b	MON- NA	THURS - MO
3/3	KS ₄ Basketball	Y ₁₁ Indoor Football
10/3	KS ₃ Basketball	Y ₁₁ Indoor Football
17/3	KS ₄ Basketball	Y ₁₁ Indoor Football
24/3	KS ₃ Basketball	Y ₁₁ Indoor Football
31/3	KS ₄ Basketball	Y ₁₁ Indoor Football

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



OPEN TRAINING



@ Sporting Club Inkberrow

Wednesday 16th April 2025

12.45 Meet - 13.00 START

Opportunity to be part of our brand new MJPL U13 team!

Current U12's moving into U13's for the 25/26 Season!

Brand new facilities - grass & artificial pitches!

To attend, Contact
 Jamie - 07908074782
 Jamie@williams78.co.uk

#Weonlydopositive

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



TEXT ACADEMY

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




Text your message to 07563130478 and one of the team will be in touch

I'm being bullied - I don't know what to do -
text your message to: 07563130478

or

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

07563130478



NEW referral route for our children and young people's social groups

Groups are safe spaces for 7-18 year olds to connect with others, talk about different topics, and take part in activities without the need to mask.



Scan the QR for more details and to refer.

(024) 7601 2333
casspartnership.org.uk
navigation@casspartnership.org.uk




Bottle Donations

Can you spare any bottles for our bottle tombola at the Street Market on Sunday 8th June?

<i>Wine</i>	<i>Olive Oil</i>
<i>Beer</i>	<i>Vinegar</i>
<i>Spirits</i>	<i>Sauces</i>
<i>Pop</i>	<i>Shampoo</i>
<i>Squash</i>	<i>Perfume</i>

Donations can be brought into the school office anytime.




8:30AM VE Day proclamation by the Town Crier	80	6:30PM Church Bells ring out
9:00AM Flag raising on Church Green		MEET AT 7:00PM Service starts 7:30pm

VE DAY

80TH ANNIVERSARY
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 MAY 2025

Centenary Field
8:00PM
Lighting of the Beacon

Refreshments available after Beacon lighting