Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

28th May 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

Yet again, where did that half term go? I think that we are trying to pack so much in, the weeks just whizz right by currently. There are lots of useful attached documents this week for you that I'll refer to throughout the bulletin.

Today was a poignant and very special day as we said farewell to our year 11 cohort. After a very difficult 14 months or so for everyone but especially this year group, we were keen to mark their five year journey with us today. The students had tears and laughs during the day and we looked back at various photos, and remembered key events. We will miss this year group very much indeed and I want to take this opportunity on behalf of all of the staff and governors to wish them the very best as they move forward in life.

One student aptly wrote the following in a recent English assessment:

So let us begin our journey as we step into freedom. The moment we walk through those doors for the very last time we must have no regrets, no fears, and no pressure. The best days of our lives are over the horizon. Ladies and gentlemen, we are no longer pupils. We are people" Sam year 11

I echo these sentiments and could not have put it better if I tried! Rest up now year 11s after a pretty packed time since returning to school.

Year 11s last day at Alcester Academy—2016-2021

Our Head Boy, with a memory plaque, celebrating the ten years his family have shared the same locker—Locker Number 100!

...and our students had their farewell assembly...

Pizza and ice cream was served by the canteen as a leaving treat.

Year 11s last day at Alcester Academy—2016-2021

Alcester Academy

Year 9s trip to Grange Hall 2021

Our year 9s returned safely from Grange Hall in Bideford today. Huge thanks to the staff that accompanied the 57 students. Whilst we were hoping for more sunshine for the students, the temperature certainly did not dampen spirits one bit. All in all I think that we can mark this as a huge success, and a well needed change of scene and activities after a long lockdown for these students. I am always amazed and very grateful to staff who are willing to give up their own time away from loved ones to be away with the students. We will update you with more detail on the trip after half term. In exciting news, we have provisionally rebooked the centre for our new year 7s for summer 2022. This was a one-off for year 9s, as we sadly had to cancel their Marle Hall trip last year.

In other news:

Covid—Merging year 9 and year 10 bubbles after half term

We are still covid free at school. Please continue to use the LFDs as a precaution over half term and into the next. We are very grateful.
After half term, we will be merging year 9 and year 10 in social areas in a new bubble, as a result of year 11s leaving. Please don't worry about this. It has worked very safely and effectively with year 9 and year 11 up until now. We will still retain classrooms for each year group and keep separate toilets but merging the two groups will massively extend the outside space that they have.

Please alert me over half term if you have any positive PCR results by emailing head@alcesteracademy.org.uk. The DfE guidance says: Where pupils, students or staff test positive for COVID-19 during half-term, having developed symptoms more than 2 days since being in school or college, no action is needed. If you are going to any 'amber' countries over half term, respect the quarantine regulations upon return and let school know. The local authority has published some guidance for you in one of the attachments this week.

Outside school sports clubs

Public Health England (Warwickshire) inform us that contact tracing via local sports clubs is still lacking in some areas. Please be vigilant if your child attends any outside school clubs at this critical time.

Year 7 written reports

I was delighted to spend a lovely evening reading through the year 7 written reports this week. The students have obviously worked very hard indeed. We have recognised those students achieving a majority of 1s as *Attitude to Learning* scores and these students also received a letter of commendation for going the extra mile. Congratulations to these students especially!

Year 8 options

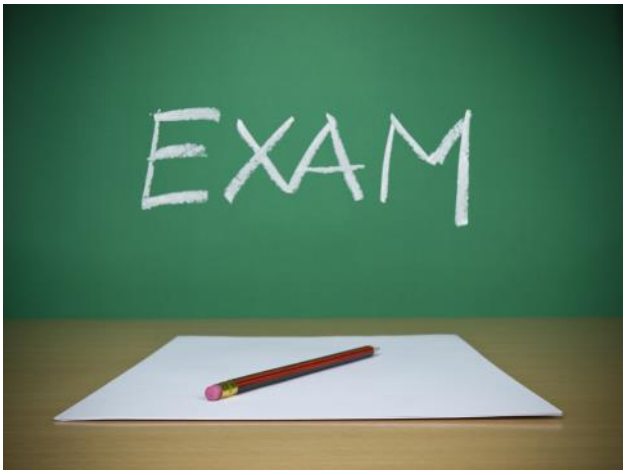
Year 8 written reports are just being finalised to help with Option choices very soon. We are looking forward to seeing parents virtually on Thursday 10th June 6pm via TEAMS for the main meeting to discuss the process.

Course and subject leaders are then around on School Cloud from 4-6pm on Tuesday 15th June and then Wednesday 16th June (Geography, Mrs Stedman) to answer any further queries that you might have.

This is Archie in year 8 who has been showing me how quickly he can solve a Rubik's Cube during lunchtimes this week. Wow! If only there were a GCSE in this! If your child has a talent or hobby that we are unaware of, do let us know so that we can celebrate this with them in school! I can't wait until Owen in year 10 can finally meet safely with Archie so that they can swap tips for this! Both very talented young men!

Year 10 exams after half term

Year 10s have their mock exams directly after half term. We wish them well for these. They have worked very hard in preparation for them. Please ensure that all year 10s have the necessary equipment in order to complete exams and a face covering too. We urge the year 10s to get a positive balance over half term of further revision but also rest!



Change of year 6 day

We have recently written to year 6 parents regarding the change to the induction day in the summer. This has moved from 1st July to Friday 9th July. This is in order to facilitate the lateral flow tests required to be completed in the few days prior to visiting Alcester Academy. Miss Hammond, Transition Co-ordinator will be writing with the specifics of the day for you in due course.

New parents' evening will be run virtually via TEAMS on Wednesday 30th June at 6pm. An invitation will be sent out to you after half term. You and your child will still meet the new year 6 tutor at this event albeit via video.

Year 11 Google Classroom – summer bridging work

Classroom code: yvmunbc

We have uploaded some ideas for students to help them prepare for their post 16 choices and for summer activities. This is in addition to the generous work provided by KES and headmaster, Mr Carr.

Year 11 for 2022 – Radley College, Oxfordshire

I received a letter this week to promote 100% means tested bursaries for sixth form places for boys at Radley College in Oxfordshire. Visit www.radley.org.uk/admissions/sixth-form-entry for further details.

Carers Week 2021

We have attached some support for carers published this week that might be of interest to families.

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

The Business Bulletin – Edition 1

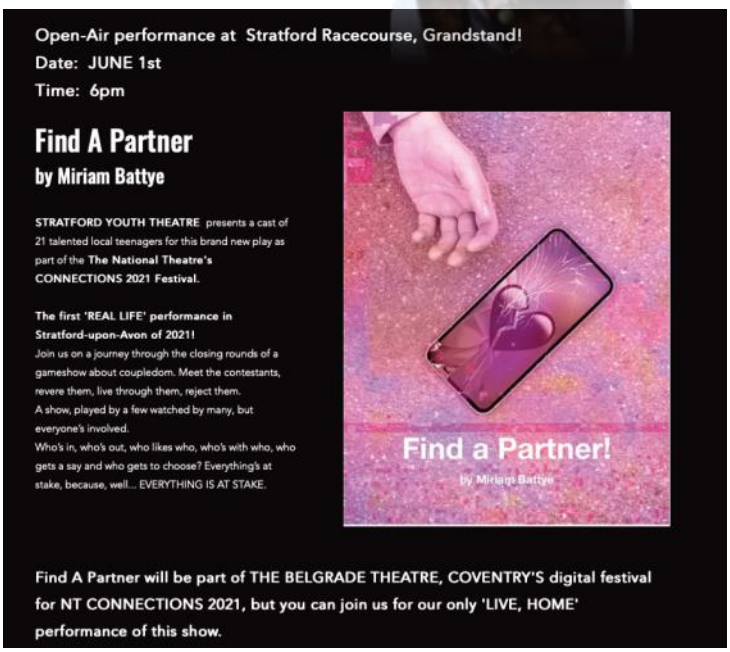
Thank you to those businesses that have offered us ads for today's special first Business Bulletin. See attached. We hope that in time we can offer this to you on a regular basis and interest will grow so that we can support our local trade.

So finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a lovely half term break. On behalf of staff and governors, we thank all of you for the continued support this half term. I would like to send out our best wishes to the performing artists at the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry over half term as part of the National Theatre Connections project. Each year they commission just ten plays for young people to perform and we were selected this year. after Ms Sacco's timely application, thank you! Break a leg everyone!

Head shots of our soon to be year 11 famous actors! Don't forget where you started!

We also wish Bea in year 10 much success as she also performs with a Stratford Performing Arts group in the same festival.

I continue to be in awe of our youngsters and the extra mile that they go!



And it wouldn't be a proper end of half term if I didn't thank the entire staff team; site, midday supervisors, admin, office, LSU, SEND, technicians, catering, our librarian and our teachers. They have worked non-stop to try and give our students continued opportunities in these difficult times. For our year 11s they have performed the role of supporter, mentor, teacher, examiner and awarding body in terms of the admin, marking and moderation of scripts and assessments continually this half term. I know that they are all looking forward to a relaxing bank holiday and half term week.

I hope that our students stay covid safe and enjoy a well-deserved break now. Let's also wish for some summer sunshine finally! Happy half term to everyone.
Best wishes!

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Project SOS

On Thursday evening, seventeen year 10 students started a project in conjunction with Oxford University.
The aim of Project SOS is to give students the opportunity to undertake a research project into their social environment and explore the stereotypes they find.

Working in teams of 4/5 over the course of several weeks, they will collect data and analyse it, before presenting their findings at the final inter-school conference at Kings High, Warwick.

The research will be judged by a panel of experts and prizes will be awarded at the conference.

We hope Project SOS will empower students to make informed choices by raising their awareness of stereotyping and its effects. The project will give students the knowledge and skills to feel confident challenging stereotypes while at the same time the inspiring mentor will help them cement and expand their knowledge of scientific research principles.

Miss Elliott

KING'S College LONDON

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

JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #13 - MARINE BIOLOGIST

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.

School Attendance — up to 27.5.21

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
95.7%	93.9%	92.8%	91.3%	92.3%	93.3%

This week's top Tutor Groups

7TY– 97.8%, 8ST – 98.5%, 9WA – 98.9%, 10RO & 10SO – 96.2% and 11BR – 99.0%

Year 11 Leavers' Handprints 2016-2021

Epraise Updates—week ending 27.5.21

Congratulations to the Top Students this year:

1st	Harvey	7NE	Second week	260 points
2nd	Maya	7BW	Second week	255 points
3rd	Jack	7HT	Third week	235 points

Top Scorers this week:

1	Mia	8CA	27 points
2	Jack	7WI	18 points
2	Charlie	7TY	18 points
4	Emily	8MA	16 points
5	Katherine	7HT	15 points
5	Jess	7HT	15 points
5	Evie	7NE	15 points
5	Trudie	7NE	15 points
5	Aidan	7BW	15 points
5	Charlie	8ST	15 points

Top Staff this week:

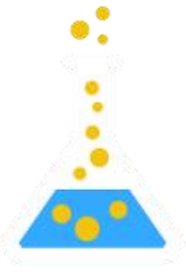
1	Mr Martin	573 points
2	Mr Bastock	208 points
3	Miss Bayliss	174 points
4	Mr Bowater	169 points
5	Miss Cooper	143 points

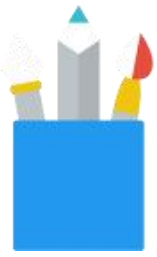
Top Subjects this week:

1	Maths	464 points
2	Science	305 points
3	IT	302 points
4	Geography	170 points
5	English	118 points

Top Tutor Groups this week:

1	7TY	192 points
2	7WI	185 points
3	7NE	162 points
4	7BW	157 points
5	8BL	143 points





MFL Idiom of the Week

English: To each his own.

French: Les chiens aboient, la caravane passe

Literal meaning: The dogs bark, the caravan passes

German: Jedem das Seine

Literal meaning: To each his own

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS