

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

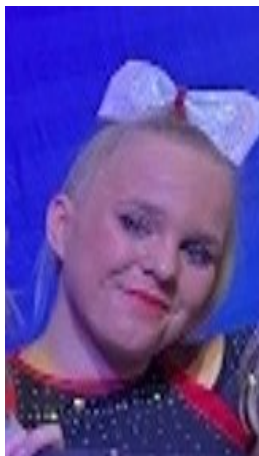


29th April 2022

Many congratulations to Lola in year 9



This is real headline news! You may recall that before Easter, we featured Lola in our bulletin as she headed off to Florida for the world youth cheerleading competition held at the Disney All Star ESPN resort. Not only was Lola part of the opening ceremony but Lola's squad; Team England Youth beat all of the other nations and were crowned World Champions. The whole arena celebrated this by standing as the National Anthem was played. What a life experience! We are so proud of Lola and her achievements. Many congratulations.



SportCheer
ENGLAND

Welcome back everyone,

I hope that you had a restful Easter with some break during this time. We have come back to some lovely weather this week. There were many signs that spring must have sprung this week as our PE Department got out the tennis nets only to find a family of robins nesting, and our students are looking superb in their shorts!



Alex pictured here with Albi, the counsellors dog.

Thank you for supporting the high standards of uniform upon the return to school. Our students are looking extremely smart. Year 11 were issued with their leavers' hoodies this week too, indicating that there is not long to go now for them very sadly!



Ofsted report

Our Ofsted report was finally published this week on their website:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/23/137172>

Thank you again for your overwhelming support in favour of us seeking an Outstanding overall effectiveness judgement. The chances of a change to the judgement remains slim. We have re-appealed however, and with your tremendous support, never say never! If I have learnt anything over the last three years, it is to expect the unexpected!

COVID statistics today:

Year 7— no cases

Year 8 — 2 cases

Year 9 — no cases

Year 10 — no cases

Year 11 — no cases

Year 8 Parents' Evening

We are looking forward to seeing you live in the school hall next Wednesday 4th May, for the official Options Evening. This starts promptly at 6pm. Subject and course leaders will be available for you to speak to in person as well as SLT and our Careers Advisor; Miss Bartlett, along with our SENCo, Mrs Bush.



Year 10 good deed

We are so proud of the year 10s who stopped to help a resident in distress last Friday on the Conway Field. This was a fabulous illustration of the school values in action. Well done to Sophie, Duncan, Ella and Isy.



Year 11s

I am hoping to put together a special bulletin for our year 11 leavers this summer. If parents or carers have particularly special memories as photographs of the last five years, please send these to head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

On behalf of staff and governors, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our year 11s the very best of luck for their forthcoming GCSEs. Year 11 MFL speaking exams and Art moderation start next week.



We aim for the year 11 leaving day to be Thursday 23rd June. This will be after the GCSE Physics exam and leavers' assembly. Students will be free for 'Prom Prep' from 1pm. We then look forward to seeing them at the Kings Court Hotel later on that evening. I have written to year 11 parents in far more detail about this.

Year 11 Alternative Timetable: Preparing for Success

From the 16th May for 6 weeks we will be running our 'tried and tested' alternative timetable for year 11s. As GCSE exams return to normal, we will be reinstating this crucial intervention. Year 11s will be provided with the finer details next week, but it will have an impact on the whole school as we do all we can to prepare our leavers who only have a handful of weeks left with us now.

In brief, the timetable includes the ability for year 11 students to have blocks of time with their subject teachers before examinations. This will result in subject teachers needing cover for other year groups they may teach at this time. In all cases, relevant work will be set and lessons will be ran by the teaching team at Alcester Academy. Mr Millen and Mr Hollis work hard to make all of this happen smoothly and minimise disruption as much as possible.

This intervention will happen for every cohort when they reach year 11 at the Academy.

Many thanks
Mr Cooke

Rewards trips

We will shortly be publishing the end of term rewards trips well in advance for you this year. Students have been told that these are NOT linked to attendance this year in order to be fairest with Covid but they will as always, be linked to positive behaviour.

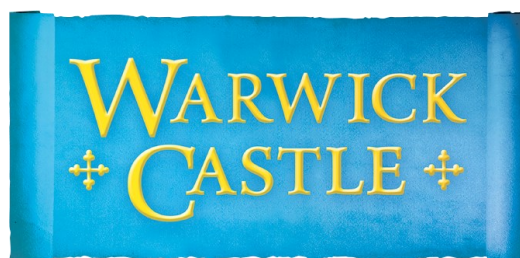
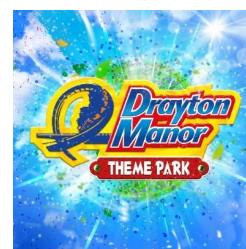
The trips will be on Monday 18th July as follows:

Year 7 – West Midlands Safari Park

Year 8 – Drayton Manor

Year 9/10 – Alton Towers

We are also running 'open year trips' to Warwick Castle and one other venue—TBC— for anyone in years 7-10 who would prefer a quieter, less thrill seeking day (including the staff!).



Congratulations to Lucas in year 8!

Lucas is helping to raise money for the British Red Cross in Ukraine appeal. He will have run 50k in April and tracked the progress on Strava and is hoping to raise £150

For anyone wishing to donate, the link to the just giving page is:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lucasmarsh

Bitcoin warning

I have it on good faith that some students are trying to start, or entice others to set up bitcoin accounts. Please be wary. There are several interesting articles in various newspapers about this if you are not well informed on the subject.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/money-mentor/article/invest-bitcoin-cryptocurrencies/#What-is-bitcoin-and-how-does-it-work?>

Charity donations

Please note the thank you letter from Asthma UK following your Christmas donations. If you recall, this was shared for dear Liv Warrollo with Red Wings Horse Sanctuary. Liv lost her life suddenly and tragically to Asthma in December 2020. She would have been in year 8 now.

Asthma + Lung UK
18 Mansell Street
London E1 8AA
0300 222 5800
info@asthmaandlung.org.uk
AsthmaAndLung.org.uk



22 April 2022

Dear students at Alcester Academy,

THANK YOU FROM ASTHMA + LUNG UK!

I'd like to personally thank you for your incredible donation of £841.95 from your fundraising. What an amazing contribution that will make a huge difference to people affected by lung conditions. We're so grateful for your support.

Together, we're making huge progress in transforming lung health: with your help, we will continue to offer our life-saving support services, fund ground-breaking research to improve diagnosis and treatment, and campaign for lung health to be taken seriously. None of this is possible without you.

As you may know, every week 10,000 people are diagnosed with a lung condition in the UK. We work tirelessly to make sure we're finding better treatments for every one of them, but we can't do it alone. Your fundraising can make sure that our research continues to reveal more about what causes lung disease and how we can improve treatments and one day even find a cure.

It costs around £100 for every day one of our research technicians spends in the lab. So, with your amazing donation of £841.95, you can see how you're taking us closer to life-changing breakthroughs.

Your support means the world to us. Thank you so much for fighting for everyone's right to breathe.

We really hope you enjoyed your fundraising and are inspired to get involved in other ways in the future. For more information about our work and activities visit asthmaandlung.org.uk or drop us a line at community@asthmaandlung.org.uk - we'd love to hear from you.

Thanks again for all your support,

Alice

Alice Field
Fundraising and Engagement Admin Assistant

Well done year 7s

On Saturday 23rd April, Shannon and Skye in year 7 were both involved in a St George's Day event held in Evesham which while celebrating they were raising money for DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Both of them were involved in helping raise as much as they could through selling raffle tickets and tombola numbers.

In total, £2010 was raised for the charity. Well done to both girls. A superb effort! We are very proud indeed.

Canteen cards

Please note that we are having a purge on students having their canteen cards with them in order to purchase food please. A free replacement will be given for a first 'lost card' and then we will start charging £1 for a replacement. Equally, we will not tolerate 'forgotten cards' indefinitely. We are trying to teach the students the need to be responsible for when they begin to use debit cards etc. in later life.

Best wishes Mrs Woodman, Deputy Headteacher

We are sending warm wishes to Mrs Woodman after her recent fall and consequential operation and broken ankle. Ouch! Mrs Woodman won't be in school for a while whilst this nasty injury starts to repair.

Welcome

On behalf of the Alcester Academy school community, can I take this opportunity to warmly welcome the new AGS Headteacher to the area; Rachel Thorpe. We wish Ms Thorpe every happiness in her new role and I look forward to meeting her very soon.

Goodbye Mrs O Shea

As many of you will be aware, Mrs O Shea, Head of School at St Nicholas' Primary School will be retiring at the end of this academic year. We intend to open a commemorative book for student messages of thanks over this term and I invite you to send any parent messages to add to admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk. Obviously, if you work at St Nics or are still a parent there, this is a TOP SECRET MISSION!

EPRAISE prize draw

Pictured here are our prize winners from Monday's EPRAISE draw. What a lovely way to start the term off!



Warwickshire Request – Applying for school places

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) are reviewing the way parents and carers apply for a school place for their children. As part of this review, they want to understand what matters most to those involved and are asking for your feedback on using the service and Parent Portal. The information provided will help design, manage and improve the way in which this system operates.



If we could please encourage you to complete the questionnaire and help them understand what is important to you when deciding on a suitable place for your child to learn. The questionnaire will take around 5 minutes to complete and is anonymous, it asks you about your experiences and what matters to you along with some general information about your family.

Please do share as much as you can about your experience to help inform the future system to ensure the best experience for parents and carers in the future.

[Click here for the link to Questionnaire](#)

Dates for your diary this half term:

Monday 2nd May.
BANK HOLIDAY. Not in school

Wednesday 4th May. 6pm.
Live Options Evening for year 8. School Hall.

Wednesday 4th May.
Year 11 GCSE MFL Speaking exams start

Wednesday 11th May.
Super Learning Day year 8. *Talking Heads*

Thursday 12th May.
Super Learning Day year 9/10.
Mad4Employment

Friday 13th May.
Alternative timetable begins to support year 11

Thursday 19th May.
Year 8 Options deadline

Friday 20th May.
Year 9 reports out (approx. date)

June. A celebration of national PRIDE month in school

I will update you in the next few weeks on events after half term

We break up on Tuesday 19th July at 3.25pm

GCSE results are on Thursday 25th August 2022

Students return to school (staggered starts) from Tuesday 6th September 2022

Wishing you all a glorious bank holiday weekend ahead. Make the most of it for those of you that do get an extra day off.

Best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher



JUBILEE STREET PARTY

 **SUNDAY 5th JUNE**

ALCESTER HIGH STREET 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

FANTASTIC LOCAL ENTERTAINERS

ENJOY THE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE OF AN ALCESTER STREET PARTY

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD, TABLE AND CHAIRS

FURTHER DETAILS 01789 766084

ORGANISED BY ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL



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



Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464) and Scotland (SCO416663).

Epraise—this week

epraise

Top Students this week:

1	Lola-Mai	9BW	41 points
2	Shannon	7RA	26 points
3	Sophie	8RO	23 points
4	Isobel	10LE	22 points
4	Skye	7SI	22 points
4	Ella	10KA	22 points
7	Duncan	9BW	21 points
8	Charlie	8SO	17 points
9	Harry	7RA	16 points
10	Darcy	7HT	14 points

Top Staff this week:

1	Mr Bastock,	251 points
2	Mr Yarrington	239 points
3	Miss Lewis	202 points
4	Mr Bowater	190 points
5	Mrs Weatherley	172 points
6	Mrs Mellors	170 points
7	Miss Burgess	153 points
8	Mrs Stedman	130 points
9	Miss Heitmuller	106 points
10	Miss Taylor	85 points

Top Tutor Groups this week:

1	9BW	143 points
2	7RA	138 points
3	7SI	129 points
4	7HT	125 points
5	7TY	119 points
6	7WI	112 points
7	8PK	103 points
8	8HL	102 points
9	8SO	91 points
10	10AN	89 points

Top Subjects this week:

1	Maths	319 points
2	Geography	286 points
3	Science	273 points
4	Art	200 points
5	English	198 points
6	French	166 points
7	German	106 points
8	History	80 points
9	Music	55 points
10	Media Studies	21 points



Exciting Parental Opportunity

We are seeking to recruit a new Governor with financial acumen for representation on our Finance and Audit Committee and Full Governing Body. Experience in accountancy would be useful.

For further details contact the

Clerk to the Governors Emma Home at emmahome@alcesteracademy.org.uk or
Chair of Governors Mike Dean mikedean@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable

Year 11

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

Internal MFL Speaking Exams — week commencing Monday 20th June 2022
 Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 9

Full Report published to parents/carers — Friday 20th May 2022
 Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18th July 2022

Year 8

Options Evening — Wednesday 4th May 2022 — time tbc
 Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 7

In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 13th June 2022
 Full Report published to parents/carers — Tuesday 19th July 2022

Term Dates 2022

SUMMER TERM 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	Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 3.25pm

2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

School Attendance — up to 28.4.22

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
90.4%	91.9%	92.7%	90.1%	88.9%	90.9%

This week's top tutor groups

7WI, 8RO, 9YA, 10AN and 11HO.

Well done! Mrs Hodges

Year 11 Revision Timetables

WEEK A	Lunchtime	After school (3.30-4.30pm)
Monday	Maths (by invitation only)	
Tuesday	English (by invitation only)	Maths
Wednesday	DT	English
Thursday	Biology triple	Physics triple
Friday	Combined Science	Chemistry triple

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

Vacancy Lead Teacher of RE



Starting September 2022

MPS1 £25,714 to UPS3 £41,604

Closing Date: Friday 13th May 2022 at 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 16th May 2022

A vacancy has arisen to become the Lead Teacher of RE within a high performing and friendly school. Alcester Academy enjoys a strong reputation locally and nationally as a result of our caring ethos and excellent academic performance.

This is an exciting role for the right candidate and will require passion and energy for the subject. 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.

Students in Year 7 and 8 currently study Philosophy as part of the R.E curriculum and then spend Year 9 and 10 studying Theology. A small group of Year 11s currently choose to continue on to study a GCSE in RE with Christianity and Buddhism as the main religions.

We are looking for someone to: -

Strategically lead the curriculum development and teaching of GCSE Religious Education.

Further develop and coordinate the delivery of the RE curriculum at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 (both as an option subject and as whole school RE) so that it is relevant, engaging and coherent.

To assess, track and monitor student progress and plan and enact intervention and support as needed and to be accountable for this. Keep up to date with national and local developments in religious education.

Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including newly qualified teachers.

If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please contact the Headteacher, for an informal discussion, or simply complete the application form.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form. A written statement in support of your application will be accepted but we do not consider CVs. The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 13th May with interviews taking place week commencing 16th May 2022. We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person. 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](#)

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.

Vacancy Teacher of MFL (German) Maternity Cover



Starting July 2022 MPS/UPS

Closing Date: 13th May 2022

Interviews: Week commencing 16th May 2022

A vacancy has arisen to become part of an outstanding MFL department within a high performing and friendly school. Alcester Academy enjoys a strong reputation locally and nationally because of our caring ethos and excellent academic performance.

The successful applicant will join an ambitious and thoroughly supportive teaching team who work in collaboration with a highly successful MFL 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. Students at Alcester Academy study French and German.

The MFL department is proud of the progress that students make. Languages at Alcester Academy are positively promoted and student enthusiasm and uptake is high.

This is a temporary, yet exciting, post covering a maternity leave.

Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including newly qualified teachers.

If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please contact the Subject Leader, Zoe Weatherley, for an informal discussion, or complete the application form. More details regarding this post are available by emailing: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

The National Teen Book Club

A first of a kind programme, bringing together 11 to 19-year-olds from hundreds of state schools and colleges, across every corner of the UK, to a shared virtual Book Club.

Over four weeks, from 4th to 25th May, young people will connect online from home, or from school or college with an educator, for our weekly event every Wednesday, 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Each week, we cover three key elements:

Read the same book at the same pace and discuss in small breakouts online at home, or with their peers in school or college. young people discuss online at home, or with their peers in school or college. or with their peers in.

Gain insights and advice from authors, illustrators, publishers and literary agents – as well as speakers with a passion for reading or links to the book. The final week Q+A session will be with the author of the book we are reading!

Grow in skills and confidence to produce a creative writing or art piece, which will be published in our first of a kind Virtual Library and Exhibition – the best entries will win exclusive prizes! will win exclusive prizes!

If you are aged 11 to 13 and wish to take part in this, I am happy to run it as an afterschool club - please let me, Mrs Hands, know as soon as possible so that I can register Alcester Academy to take part.

If you are aged 14 and over you are able to take part independently from home, use this link to register -

https://www.speakersforschools.org/youth_opportunities/national-teen-book-club-the-crossing-by-manjeet-mann-share-a-reading-experience-and-have-your-work-published/



BOOK CLUBS
IN SCHOOLS

Click here for more information -

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/national-teen-book-club/>

The National Teen Book Club

AR Treasure Box Winner

On Thursday this week Lauren took an AR quiz during her reading lesson and scored 100%, she was awarded the opportunity to have a go at guessing the code to open the AR Treasure Box.....and guess what??.....it opened!!

Well done Lauren, enjoy your prize!

Lauren has won a £10 Amazon voucher, a mystery book and a large bar of chocolate.

The box will be filled again very soon.

Mrs Hands



SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

PE Practices/Fixtures: week beginning 2.5.22:

Tuesday 3rd May:
Year 8 Archery (invitation letters issued)

Wednesday 4th May:
Year 9/10/11 Rounders

Thursday 5th May:
Year 9 Basketball
Year 11 South Warwickshire Rounders Tournament @ AGS (selection letters issued)

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.

STRATFORD UPON AVON BOAT CLUB
proudly present



1st August - 26th August 2022

SUMMER ROWING CAMPS

Never rowed before? **One week course ONLY £195**

Aged 12-18 and want to learn? **Level 2 qualified coaching**

Maximum of 8 athletes per coach **#DiscoverYourGOLD**

Lots of fun! **Monday - Friday**

Bam - midday **Ready for Paris '24!**

For more information and to register please visit
www.stratford-rowing.co.uk/summer-camps




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