

Alcester Academy Weekly BULLETIN



31st January 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon. We are already at the end of January! My goodness, how time flies.

This week has been consumed with visits to see year 10 students on their Work Experience. We will write in full next week about this. I'm grateful to Mrs Carole Hodgetts, School Governor for visiting many students on Tuesday with

Miss McKenzie, and hearing about their wonderful experiences. Miss Bartlett then did plenty of visits again on Wednesday with Mrs Hodgetts, as have many of the staff community. Here are a few images of those visits with many more to follow next week. See X for the week's activities too.



What's inside this week...

- Page 7 *A Very Special Fundraising Event on Friday 14th February*
- Page 10 *Exploring Veterinary Careers with Mr Shaw*
- Page 12 *February Attendance Challenge! **Win a £25 Amazon voucher!***
- Page 15 *Sports News*

Mr Cooke led assemblies around the 80th Anniversary of the Holocaust this week; a very sombre and poignant message for our students. Year 10s will be shown this as a recording once they are back in school.

Thank you if you attended the final ski trip meeting on Thursday evening. It was so lovely to see you all and feel the excitement mounting for what will be an incredible experience in the USA skiing and then the visit to NYC over February half term.

Next week, we are looking forward to the Music Super Learning Day and to the year 9 LoudMouth session on Friday entitled, *Calling It Out*. [RSHE Workshop: harmful sexual behaviours, sexual harassment, sexual assault, pornography, consent, misogyny](#). We will write to year 9 parents specifically about this.

schoolcloud Parents Evening

We are looking forward to seeing year 8 parents next Thursday at parents' evening online. This begins the start of important discussions about KS4 options and the preparation for year 8 exam week starting Monday 10th February. We will write to year 8 parents separately about the dates to have in mind for this process.

- Year 8 Exam Week— Monday 10th February
- Year 8 reports out towards end of March
- Thursday 1st May — year 8 Options Evening. Live in school at 6pm. All teaching staff will be available to speak to and the options subjects will be released
- Student taster sessions in subjects to take place after Options Evening
- Final option choices will be required mid May time. A specific date will be set nearer the time.

Good luck year 11s...

Who have their performing arts assessments next week. And congratulations music students, who completed theirs on Tuesday.

We have sent a separate communication to year 11 parents this week to include many important details. This was followed up yesterday by a specific letter about the Summer Prom.

What is your child learning?

Be sure to visit the Quality of Education tab on the school website to see all of the long term plans for each subject and year group. This is a really useful area if you want to plan family trips or visits that connect with the learning taking place in school. www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/quality-of-education

KS3 grade descriptors and assessment

And, a reminder that you can access a recorded presentation of how we assess children in year 7 and 8 for information. [Parent Forum - Recording of the KS3 Assessment session](#). Mr Cooke will write to year 7 parents about this presentation with the first data report next week.



Great work year 8...

With their vaccinations on Wednesday in school. I was very proud of the students. Albi, Clair Gibb, the Counsellor's therapy dog, made a real hit with the School Nurses too and helped tremendously during the day to calm a few expected nerves.





Kooth

Kooth is an anonymous platform that empowers children and young people to explore their concerns and seek professional support. With immediate access—no referrals or waiting lists—help is available 24/7.

www.kooth.com/

Time to Talk Day

Next Thursday is *Time To Talk Day* on behalf of the charity MIND. www.mind.org.uk/

We will be running student drop ins that will be advertised next week for the school community.



Thank you Round Table and Friends of Alcester Academy

Pictured here are the Chair and Treasurer of The Friends of Alcester Academy collecting £200 recently after their work on the Round Table Santa Run in December 2024.



And finally, I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at Bingo later. Thank you for supporting this event. It looks like a record number of tickets have been sold.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend ahead.
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher



TEXT ACADEMY

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




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

The **Required Practicals Workbooks** for **Biology, Chemistry, and Physics** are

★ **NOW IN STOCK!** ★

 **Master every practical** with clear explanations and exam-style questions.

 **Perfect for revision**—stay ahead and boost your grades!

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Combined Science – All 3 books for just **£6!**

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Get yours today—don't miss out!



SCIENCE REVISION GUIDES

Calling all students:
science revision guides are now
in stock!

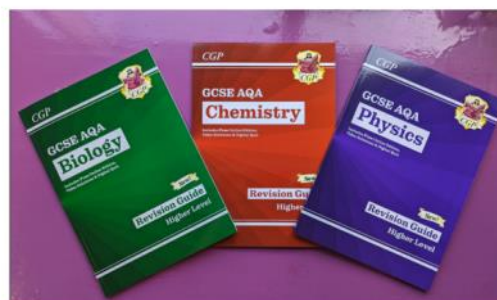
Available from the science
department, get yours
today to help revise for your
upcoming exams.

Prices:

Triple award: £10 (3 books)

Combined: £6.50 (1 book)

*Please speak to a member of the
department to get yours.*





ALCESTER ACADEMY PRESENTS



Family

BINGO

TONIGHT

Doors Open 6.30pm — Eyes down 7.00pm

1 Book (6 Games) - £2

6 Books (6 Games) - £10



[HTTP://FRIENDSOFAA.SUMUPSTORE.COM/](http://friendsofaa.sumupstore.com/)

SUPPORT US BY VISITING THE 'FRIENDS' ONLINE SHOP

Bar

Tuck Shop
& Snacks
available

Pre-booking recommended.

Book now online or via the
school office.



<https://friendsofaa.sumupstore.com>

STEM Leaders—Charity Drive

The STEM Leaders have all been awarded their badges and have begun their first whole school project. They have worked hard as a team to produce badges and cards that will be sold in the run up to Valentine's Day. The money raised will go toward a new defibrillator in the community.



Our STEM Leaders: Teddy, Alina, Riley, Poppy, Paige, Fliss, Hester and Lily!



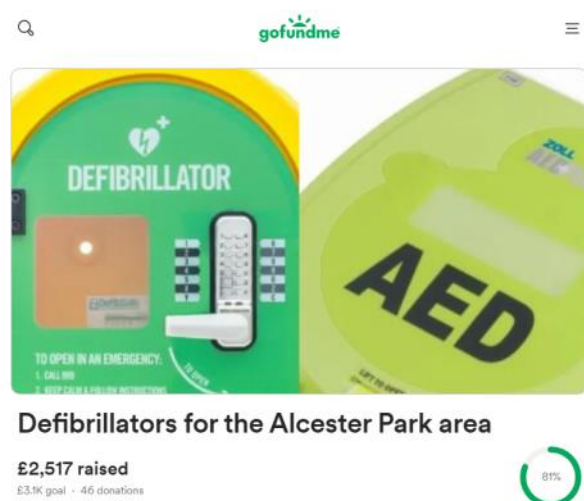
Please come and visit our stall tonight
during the Family Bingo event—
!!!! CASH ONLY !!!



Family
BINGO
Night



A Very Special Fundraising Event on Friday 14th February in Memory of Clive Bennett



On Friday 14th February Alcester Academy will be turning red in support of a very special cause. As many of you will be aware, Mrs Bennett sadly lost her husband very suddenly before Christmas.

Clive Bennett was a great champion to Alcester Town Football Club and played a huge role in supporting the youth players and fundraising for the football club that was very dear to his heart.

In memory of Clive Bennett, the football club have been raising money for a defibrillator on the Alcester Park estate.

The target is £3,100.

With £2,517 donated on the Go Fund Me Page, we are determined to do everything we can as a school to help and reach the target of £3,100 so have planned our very own fundraising day in support:

Friday 14th February Fundraiser Information:

- On Friday 14th February there will be the opportunity for pupils to wear non-uniform for a minimum donation of £2 on the school gateway. We are also encouraging pupils to wear red in honour of Clive Bennett. There will be a prize for the most creative red outfit.
- Our STEM Ambassadors have been selling beautiful heart badges, that they have designed and made by themselves, which can be purchased for £2 (£2.50 customised). It has been wonderful to see so many staff and pupils wearing these around school ahead of our fund-

raiser. These are available to purchase up until the 14th February.

- We will have fundraising buckets during the school day for any pupils who would like to donate small change.
- We will be out the front of school at the beginning and end of the school day for any parents and carers who would like to donate money to this fabulous cause.
- Pupils may wish to bring some additional cash with them on this day as there will be the opportunity to purchase cakes at break and lunchtime and enter some competitions to win prizes.

Please find the link to the Clive Bennett Defibrillator Go Fund Me Page if you wish to make your own personal donations:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/defibrillator-for-alcester-park-area>

Raising money for a much needed defibrillator in memory of Clive Bennett and for our community is something we are very passionate about supporting.

We are very much looking forward to coming together as a school on Friday 14th February, to hopefully hit the target of £3,100!

If you have any questions or would like any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at charliemckenzie@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Charlie McKenzie
Assistant Headteacher



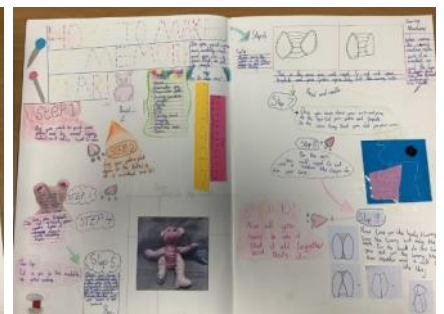
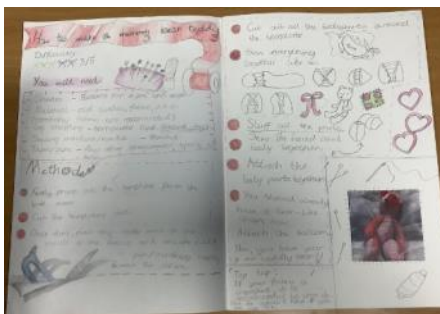
Finished Memory Bears and Bunny Rabbits from by Coughton Pupils

Pupils from Coughton C of E Primary School came to Alcester Academy last week, to work on a textiles project.

The pupils brought in old clothes and school uniform to use, as they were focusing on a *Make Do & Mend* theme.

Please take a look at the finished Memory Bears, Bunny Rabbits and coursework which were taken back to school to add the finishing touches! Fabulous work everyone!

Miss Wincup



Extra Curricular Timetable

Spring 2025



Alcester
Academy

Monday

Lunchtime

Mathematics Matters (Yr11)- PE1
Acoustic Group- Hut
Y8 Book Club - LRC
ART- A1 & A2

Tuesday

Lunchtime

Pop Band- Hut
ART- A1 & A2
Mr Palmieri's Maths Clinic
Y10/Y11- M1
Learn to Crochet -
Textiles (Student and teachers)

After School

European languages club -L2
(From Spring 2)

Wednesday

Lunchtime

Orchestra - Hut
BBC Young Reporter- E1
ART- A1 & A2
Chess club- M3
Y8/9 Scrabble Club - LRC

After school

Detective Fiction club- E6
Cooking Club -
Alternate weeks

Thursday

Lunchtime

Young Enterprise- IT3
Pride Group- E4
Rock Band- Hut
Photography Club - A1
Year 7 Book Club - LRC
ART- A1 & A2

After School

Art Club (GCSE only)- A1 & A2
Dance Club - Drama

Friday

Lunchtime

Youth Speaking- E4
STEM/Science- T2
Year 11 Year book-H4
ART- A1 & A2

Exploring Veterinary Careers with Mr Shaw



Mr Shaw spoke to the children about the various career pathways, before talking to the children about his own experiences as a neurological specialist, working primarily with cats and dogs.

The children were able to ask questions and found out that the most unusual animal Mr Shaw had worked with was a jaguar!

Mr Shaw's presentation was

Last week we were fortunate to have parent, Mr Shaw, in school to hold a drop-in session for students interested in a veterinary career. This proved to be one of our most popular sessions to date with 26 students participating!

packed with useful information for those wishing to learn more about this as a career and you can find this on the Careers Zone Google Classroom. Sincere thanks for taking the time to visit us.

Miss Bartlett—Careers Co-ordinator



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



Epraise Leaderboard—for the past 7 days

Top Students—past 7 days:

1	John	9PA	Greville	27 points
2	Alex	7KO	Ragley	23 points
2	Poppy	7KO	Oversley	23 points
2	Daniel	9GA	Oversley	23 points
5	Ollie	8RO	Billesley	22 points
5	Riley	7RA	Ragley	22 points
7	Archie	11GO	Ragley	21 points
7	Dyl	7LX	Oversley	21 points
7	Toby	7KO	Oversley	21 points
7	Theo	7WI	Greville	21 points

Top House—past 7 days:

1	Billesley	1551 points
2	Oversley	1550 points
3	Ragley	1525 points
4	Greville	1507 points

Top Subjects—past 7 days:

1	Science	551 points
2	Art	538 points
3	English	484 points
4	Maths	436 points
5	French	346 points

Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mr Yarrington	429 points
2	Mrs Weatherley	343 points
3	Mr Rossiter	316 points
4	Mrs Hirji	267 points
5	Mrs Gorner	252 points

Top Tutors—past 7 days:

1	7KO	368 points
2	7RA	364 points
3	7TN	360 points
4	7LX	353 points
5	9PA	326 points



Attendance News

Whole School Attendance this week is 93.3%

Top tutors this week:

7LX with 98% attendance

8AN with 98% attendance

9GA with 97% attendance

10MA with 93.5% attendance

11LE with 96.4% 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



February Attendance Challenge!

Throughout February, students with 100% attendance each week will be entered into a prize draw.

Every Monday, one lucky winner will be selected to receive a £25 Amazon voucher!

Stay committed and don't miss your chance to win!



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!

Parents' Evenings 2024-25

Thursday 6th February 2025

Year 8 Parents' Evening SchoolCloud

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

SchoolCloud is the online video service

Alcester Academy Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2025

Half Term	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February 2025
Back to school	Monday 24th February 2025
Spring Term ends (Easter)	Friday 11th April 2025 at 12.40pm

SUMMER TERM 2025

Summer Term begins	Monday 28th April 2025
<i>School closed</i>	<i>Friday 2nd May 2025—Teacher training day</i>
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May 2025
Half Term	Monday 26th – Friday 30th May 2025
Back to school	Monday 2nd June 2025
<i>School closed</i>	<i>Friday 27th June 2025—Teacher training day</i>
Summer Term ends	Friday 18th July 2025 at 12.40pm

STEM AMBASSADOR

Alcester Academy

Valentine's Day Badges

Write a special note in secret, and buy a badge/card for your Valentine!

- delivered during Tutor time on the 14th of February.
- Sold at Break and Lunch in the canteen

Badge: £2
Card: £1

All money raised goes to charity.

Year 11 Revision Timetables—Week A and Week B



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.

Saturday School dates

Saturday 1st March and Saturday 8th March—with subject sessions to be confirmed.

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Fixture Round Up U13 Girls Basketball— District tournament

Well done to our year 8 girls basketball team who participated in the South Warwickshire district tournament at SGGs last week. The girls worked hard during the tournament to finish in 4th place overall.



U16 Girls Netball fixture v AGS



Our year 11 girls netball team brought outstanding teamwork and spirit to their final netball fixture v AGS last week. Well done to you all for being such outstanding role models on and off the court.

Year 7 and 8 Girls South Warwickshire District Athletes

This week saw the return of our KS3 athletes competing in indoor athletics competition. Two enthralling evenings of competition saw our teams come away with respectable finishing positions across both year 7 and year 8. With a total of eight schools in attendance at each competition it was fantastic to see such athletic ability on show from within the local area



Year 7—4th Place

Year 8—4th Place

Year 7 and 8 Boys South Warwickshire District Athletes



Year 7—4th Place

Year 8—4th Place

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Student Spotlight

I am pleased to update you on the progress of year 10 student Danny (Billesley) who took part in his first race on Sunday for BWR at Stretton Circuit in Leicestershire.



It was the SCSS Winter Cup for T4 juniors and despite the appalling weather, Danny did really well in qualifying and in the final he worked his way from the back of the field and got 3rd position after breaking his rear bumper.

Danny is hoping to build on this in the first race of the season in March at Shenington in the UK Kart Series 2025, which we wish him the best of luck for. *Mr Moffatt*



* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *



THIS WEEKS SPORT:

W/B 3/2/25



Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	No clubs – staff meeting	
Tuesday	Year 10 Basketball v SB – PW Year 11 Football v Sidney Stringer – MO/NA	Away Away
Wednesday	All years Badminton + Table tennis – MO/PE Year 7 Girls Football - NA	Gym
Thursday	Year 8 Parents evening – No clubs	



SPRING 1 LUNCHTIME

SPORT



- Lunchtime sports clubs to start w/b Monday 13th January on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- 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
13/1	KS4 Basketball	Y11 Indoor Football
20/1	KS3 Basketball	Y11 Indoor Football
27/1	KS4 Basketball	Y11 Indoor Football
3/2	KS3 Basketball	Y11 Indoor Football

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



FULL TIME 16-19 FOOTBALL & EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

GIRLS
Talent identification & open day
FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
Girls 14:00-16:00
Presentation & technical training session



academy@stratfordtownfc.co.uk

#BardlyArmy



STRATFORD TOWN FC
KNIGHTS LANE, TIDDINGTON, STRATFORD UPON AVON. CV37 7BZ

PARTNERS WITH
SOUTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



STRATFORD THUNDERBIRDS NETBALL CLUB
WARWICKSHIRE'S MOST SUCCESSFUL NETBALL CLUB

JOIN US

Summer Season Open Trials

PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS

TRAIN AT STRATFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL OR THE CROFT PREP

PLAY COMPETITIVE MATCHES AND TOURNAMENTS

Saturday 8 February
Stratford Girls' Grammar School, CV37 9HA

9.00 am - 10.30 am: Year 3, 4, 5
10.40 am - 12.10 pm: Year 6 & 7
12.20 pm - 1.50 pm: Year 8 / 9 / 10 (Beginners)
2.00 pm - 3.30 pm: Year 8 / 9 / 10 (Intermediate)
3.40 pm - 5.10 pm: Year 8 / 9 / 10 (Performance)

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY CHAMPIONS | WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL CHAMPIONS | ENGLAND NETBALL NATIONAL FINALISTS | 4 X INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS 2024 | 30+ JUNIOR TEAMS

LATE TRIALS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT ATTEND ABOVE TIMES
U6, U7, U16, SNRS GET IN TOUCH DIRECTLY TO ARRANGE A TRIAL

REGISTER VIA LINK:
[BIT.LY/THUNDERBIRDSTRIALS](https://bit.ly/thunderbirdstrials)



CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Purple Spider, The Learning Bus

Craft Fair

22nd March 2025

The Greig Hall, Alcester, Warwickshire

Where: The Grieg Hall

When: 22nd March 2025

Time: 10am till 1:30pm



CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



Warwickshire Police Cadets

We are a scheme for young people aged 13-18 who want to make a positive contribution to their local communities through Social Actions and other Police led activities. We have two Schemes in Warwickshire, the Juniors for those aged 13-16 and the Senior Scheme for those age 16+

- Promote a practical understanding of policing amongst all young people
- Encourage a spirit of adventure and good citizenship
- Support local policing priorities through volunteering
- Inspire young people to participate positively in their communities

We meet one night a week (term time)

What do I do next?

Our recruitment process opens in January 2025

Visit Facebook, X or our website for more information about the cadets!



www.warwickshire.police.uk/cadets

You need live or school in Warwickshire and be aged 13-16 on
1st September 2025

Please register your interest with us at the email address below, we will
then contact you when our recruitment process opens again on
1st January 2025

Email : cadets@warwickshire.police.uk