

Alcester Academy

Weekly Bulletin

5th June 2025



Weekly Headlines



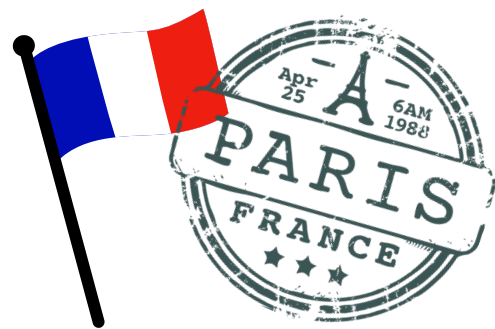
Dear Parents/carers,

Good afternoon. Welcome back! I hope that you had a peaceful half term break and managed to enjoy some of the beautiful weather. I'm very grateful that the students all returned to school safely. After such tragic stories around the UK about family loss through accidents in water, I'm certain that you join with me in sending our sincere and deepfelt condolences nationwide. Please continue to talk to your children about the perils of swimming in open water.

There are superb resources available through the [Royal Life Saving Society Open Water Safety Tips](#). Miss McKenzie will speak about water safety in her assembly next week with y7-10 students. We always discuss this topic at the end of summer term in our SLT assemblies with students, too.



In other news, the MFL residential trip to Paris safely returned on bank holiday Monday, although much later than expected due to customs hold ups and traffic. The trip sounded exceptional yet again and I thank staff for giving up their holiday time again for the students. Mrs Weatherley, Head of MFL will report back later on. The Paris 2027 trip is already full!



I enjoyed some time with our y11s and the mathematicians in their holiday revision session last Wednesday. We continue to wish y11 the best of luck as they continue with their GCSEs.

Congratulations also to our y10 statisticians for completing their external exam this week and to our GCSE Polish exam students, supported very ably by Miss Gruszczynska, and an Italian GCSE student, too.



Do keep an eye on X this week for updates on the year 9 residential to Newquay. This is our second year running this trip. Miss Buckthorp will update you in full next week. The weather wasn't quite as glorious as 2025, however!

This week sees a focus as PRIDE month begins. Mrs Gorner led assemblies on this area for y7-10. We do hold a PRIDE club each Monday lunchtime in E4, new members are most welcome! Miss Bishop also did some work in lessons this week on the history of Pride.



Wishing you a fabulous weekend ahead. Where did that week go?

Best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher
Alcester Academy

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Squishy Cubes Warning

A mum has warned against a dangerous social media trend that nearly blinded her daughter after a squishy cube bought from a large supermarket chain exploded onto her face.

The mum had recently bought a three-pack of squishy cubes while shopping in Tesco and presumed one of the toys had burst onto her eye.

The mum was then told her daughter had heated the squishy cube in the microwave to make it more malleable, but the item had exploded and showered her with molten goo.



She later learned that her daughter was following a viral trend she'd seen on social media in which squishy toys, often soft, gel-filled stress and fidget products, were microwaved to make them more pliable but more susceptible to bursting and causing injury. Please be careful all!

Health and Wellbeing Newsletter

I will be posting the Warwickshire schools' health and wellbeing newsletter on the website from now on under the personal development area. This contains some superb information for families.

Anti Social Behaviour in Alcester

Following on from my recent communication about some poor behaviour by a few students recently in Alcester, I have responded positively to District Councillor, Tom Ballinger's post on Facebook, by asking to become involved in order to help eradicate some of this upsetting conduct. I will keep you updated on this work as it progresses. The Chair of Governors, Mike Dean is invested in this work for the school.

Damage to the bus turning circle

Over half term, there was significant damage caused to the turning circle gates. If you hear of anything to help us with our enquiries around this, please do get in touch.



Duke of Edinburgh

Good luck to our Bronze students for this weekend. Stay cool and hydrated!



Sustainability Ambassadors Film National Training Videos at Oversley Hill Farm!

On Wednesday, our Sustainability Ambassadors travelled to Oversley Hill Farm in Alcester for an incredible, hands-on day of learning and leadership. Following their praised performance at the recent Wildlife Wakeup Workshop, the students were specifically invited by LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) to play a central role in a national agricultural project.

Rather than just going on a standard field trip, our pupils stepped up as media participants and educators. They helped LEAF film professional farmer training videos, designed to teach farmers across the country how to deliver complex scientific topics to teenagers in a fun, interactive way.



The day was packed with advanced, curriculum-linked experiences where the students acted as the "student voice" for the training films, engaging beautifully with tough concepts like soil health, grassland studies, genetics, and animal husbandry.

The ambassadors explored acres of regeneratively grown cereals, ancient woodland, and spent time with the farm's cattle and sheep, gaining invaluable career insights into environmental science and food production.



The group also had professional photographs taken to support our upcoming LEAF Demonstration School Award and its associated press release.

The students listened with immense maturity, brought an incredible "can-do" attitude, and provided fantastic on-camera feedback. We are incredibly proud of the reputation our Sustainability Ambassadors are building within the wider community!

Miss Nemeshanyi



New members of staff

We welcome Miss Milly Owen to the Headlines this week. Miss Owen will be taking the reins with the design and editing of this circular over the next few weeks. I do hope that you enjoy watching this evolve. Also, Miss Emily Owen has joined the SEND team as a teaching assistant this week, along with Mrs Ioana Timofte. I'm certain that you'll join with me in making these new staff feel very welcome here.



I'm Miss Owen and I have started this week as the new Reprographics Technician! I have been in the orbit of the

school before, and seeing the environment I knew I wanted to be a part of it! I am even more excited to be starting at the same time as my sister. I absolutely love being creative, so I hope everyone enjoys the evolution of this bulletin as it is very much a work in progress. In my free time, I enjoy running, spending time with my friends and family, as well as performing with my local theatre group. I am also looking forward to graduating next month!



Hi everyone, I'm Miss Owen and I am the new TA at Alcester Academy. I previously worked as a

community coach with the Aston Villa Foundation. I really enjoy both watching and playing football and love supporting women's football. In my free time, I love working backstage at the theatre, I have even been stage manager for an Alcester Academy show! I am looking forward to encouraging the students to be the best they can be!

Break a leg staff!

Wishing the staff involved in the Production of 9-5 at The Core Theatre next week the very best of luck! We are very proud of you all!



Exciting school building news

Finally, after years of trying again and again, we have been successful with the recent round of Condition Improvement Funding (CIF), in order to replace existing fire doors and replace the decommissioned mobile classrooms on the field.

Thanks to Cari Haynes, School Business Manager for her hard work on this. This is in addition to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that was awarded earlier in the year for improvements to the turning circle and top field area. All works will take place over the summer.



Next Week

Next week is year 10 exam focus week as we continue to prepare the students for their next important education phase.

Students have received their exam timetables this week. Parents will be sent crucial exam results in due course. Full attendance is required for all exams. There are no 'catch up' sessions.



Family Support Links

Support for Separated Families

[SSFA West Midlands & Warwickshire - SSFA West Midlands & Warwickshire](#)

Safeguarding

[Help your child stay safe online - Kids Online Safety](#) There are some superb resources and positive guidance for parents/carers on this platform.

SEND

[Autism Central - England's Peer Education Programme | Autism Central](#) There are several workshops available for parents/carers

Important uniform updates – Price & Buckland Summer deliveries

I have been in touch with Price and Buckland and their free uniform delivery service to school for parents will be temporarily suspended over the summer holidays. Free deliveries will begin week of 14th September 2026.

Dates for the diary

This is always an exceptionally busy half term in school. I hope that you find this list useful, but it is by no means complete at this time.

Monday 8th June

Year 10 exam start

Tuesday 9th June

Y7 Big Bang Trip

Thursday 11th June

Year 9 and 10 performing arts evening visit to watch 9-5, The Core Theatre, Solihull

Monday 15th June

Year 10 exams begin

Tuesday 16th June

Year 6 pre transition visit (invited students)

Friday 19th June and Tuesday 23rd June

Year 7 STEM super learning day

Monday 22nd June

Year 5 Open Week – tours by appointment

Wednesday 24th June

Year 9 geography field trip to Bristol
Year 6 SLT appointments. School Cloud

Thursday 25th June

South Warwickshire Athletics

Year 11 Prom

Fri 26th June

Staff Training Day – School is closed

Monday 29th June

Y8 immunisations

Tuesday 30th June

Regional finals for STEM 'Race to the line' students
Burton on Trent

Thursday 2nd July

Celebration Evening

Friday 3rd July

Wimbledon Trip (weekend)

Sunday 5th July

Rock Academy Summer Bash
(Rock Academy tours of primary schools take place in July)

Monday 6th July

Year 6 New Parents' Evening. LIVE in school

Week of Y10 English NEA Formal Spoken Assessments

Wednesday 8th July

Year 6 Induction Day

Friday 10th July

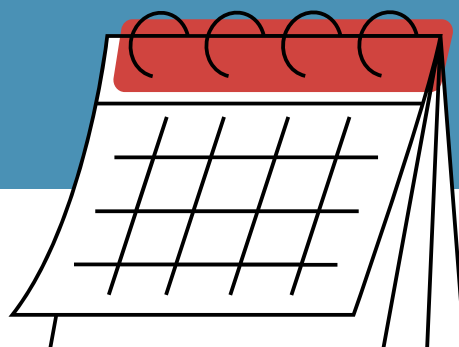
Sports Day (weather pending)

Monday 13th July

Y9 Enrichment Trip to Coughton Court

Friday 17th July

End of term 12.40pm finish



Positive Points Leaderboard!

Top Students:

Clark	7WI	6 points
Isla	10GA	6 points
Tom	10TU	5 points
Amelia	10YA	5 points
Elliot	10GA	5 points
Ava	10YA	5 points

Top Tutor:

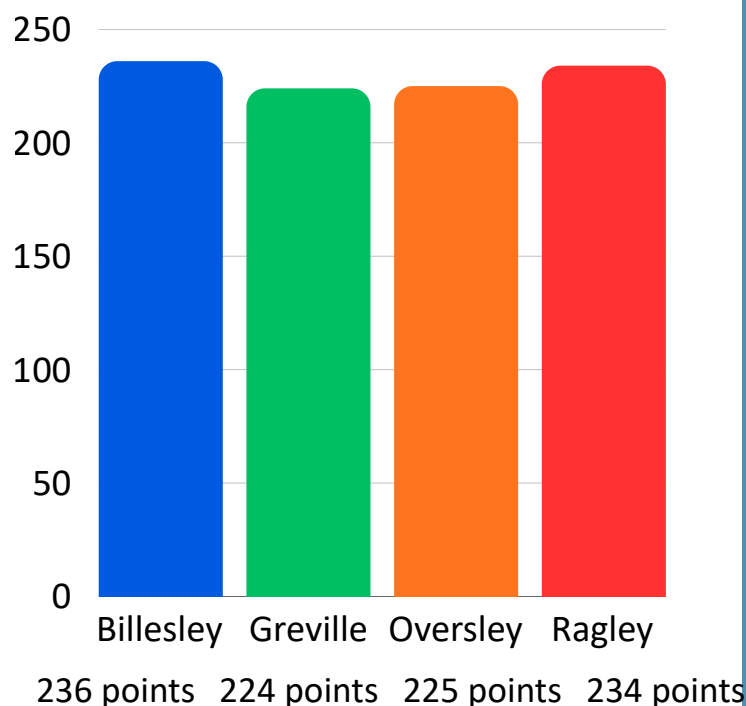
10YA	107 points
7WI	79 points
10GA	78 points
10TU	68 points

Top Staff:

Mr Yarrington	254 points
Mrs Weatherley	160 points
Miss Home	112 points

Top Subjects:

Art	185 points
French	162 points
Maths	138 points



Weekly House Points



Attendance Updates!

Top tutor attendance this week!

1. 7LX with 98.9% attendance
2. 9AN with 98.4% attendance
3. 7TN with 97.4% attendance
4. 10GA with 97.1% attendance



If your child will be absent from school, please notify our Attendance Officer, Ms Louise Hatcher, with the reason before 8.50am each day.

You can do this via:

- MCAS App—medical appointments and absences can be reported through the app
- SchoolComms
- Phone: 01789 762285
- Email: louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk

We kindly ask parents and carers to remind students who are leaving for appointments during the school day to come to the office a few minutes early so they can sign out promptly.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ms Louise Hatcher—Attendance Officer



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!

Sports News!

Student spotlight!

Dylan, Year 11 - Oversley (Football)

Brilliant news to share this week as year 11 student Dylan who has represented the Warwickshire school's football team for the last 3 years has finished his final year of representation being named the player of the season for the County team. This is an outstanding achievement for Dylan and Alcester Academy, not only to represent the County team but be awarded as the outstanding player in such a talented group of U16 players. Many congratulations, Dylan.



 NEXT WEEK'S SPORT W/B 8/6/26 		
<i>Day</i>	<i>Extra-Curricular Club & Staff</i>	<i>Location</i>
Monday	Year 9 Super 6 Athletics competition – MO/PE	Stratford School
	U15 Cricket v Camp Hill - NA	Camp Hill
Tuesday	Year 8 Super 6 Athletics competition – MO/NA	Stratford School
Wednesday	U15 Cricket v South Bromsgrove - NA	A+ R CC
	Year 7 Rounders - MO	Field
Thursday	Year 9 and 10 Rounders festival – PE	AGS
	Year 7 Athletics – MO/NA	Field
Saturday	Warwickshire School's County Championships	Nuneaton

Help Us Stock Our Shelves!

The School Library's Amazon Wishlist!

Our Learning Resource Centre School Library (LRC) is a vital hub for discovery! Help us keep our stock fresh, diverse and up-to-date.



Why a Wishlist?

- ★ Bestsellers & New Releases
- 👤 Diverse Voices
- 🔬 Non-Fiction Resources
- 💬 Graphic Novels & Manga

Purchase a book that goes directly to the school library!

How You Can Help



- Find the List: Visit the [Amazon Wishlist here](#). (Amazon no longer supports a direct search for wishlists.)
- Pick Your Book(s)
- Select the school's address ("Gift Registry Address") during checkout to ship directly to us.
- Include your name in the gift message if you would like a thank-you note from the school!



Let's Start!

Every Book Makes a Difference!

Thank you for nurturing a lifelong love of reading!
For more info: juliehands@alcesteracademy.org.uk

