

Alcester Academy

WEEKLY BULLETIN



6th May 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Good afternoon. I hope that you had a super Bank Holiday break. We are gearing up for the next official national celebration to mark the Royal Jubilee here at school, and you will see our banners and bunting start to take shape over the next few weeks at the front of school. There are details of the Jubilee Street Party, taking place in Alcester, on page 6. Pictured here are our year 8s helping to get us organised. Thank you to staff for supporting this.



Today was *Feel Good Friday* in school and I'm hoping that for lots of you, an unexpected email arrived from a member of staff (or two?) to recognise the hardwork of many students across the academy. EPRAISE points were uploaded as well and there will be another prize draw before the end of term. Mr Powell and Ms Burgess won our staff prize draw last week for awarding the most points so far this year!

epraise

Many congratulations to year 11s who began their GCSE MFL speaking exams this week. We held assembly to go through the final exam arrangements with the year group. For the rest of the school, we discussed internet safety in assembly as a reminder of the lasting



impact of the students' digital footprint. If you can continue this conversation at home, we would be very grateful indeed. I am aware of concerns that school leaders have had nationally with the content of some social media challenges; namely on TikTok. Please be aware that recently, challenges posted to teenagers have been extremely inappropriate and have involved teachers being targeted. Advice for reporting posts can be found at: [Our Helplines - UK Safer Internet Centre](#). We will aim to protect all individuals from harmful social media posts and this includes our school staff.

Our year 10 students now have the opportunity to apply to become student leaders. We will very shortly be voting for our new leadership team, and these students will play a key part in our Celebration Event in July.

We are beginning to welcome our year 6 parents into the school community over the next term. I was delighted to hear recently that 337 applications had been made for places for September 2022! Wow! We don't take this interest for granted and I thank those of you who continue to support us through word of mouth within the community.

Miss Buckthorp and I were privileged to be invited to the *Mayor Making* ceremony this week at the Town Hall. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Councillor Kathryn Cargill for being re-elected for a second year as Mayor of Alcester. The Mayor is continuing to offer her support to our *Marathon Kids* project that our students have named *Teens4Teens*. We look forward to updating you as year 7s begin their work towards this soon.



Covid statistics today:

Year 7—0 cases
Year 8—0 cases
Year 9—0 cases
Year 10—0 cases
Year 11—1 case

As you will note, cases are very low right now; long may that continue! I'll update you each Friday from now on unless we begin to see a rise again.

Year 8 Options

Thank you to those parents who joined us on Wednesday evening. Students have until 19th May to submit options requests to Mr Hollis. Thank you to former head girl, Louisa for returning to speak to parents and thank you to our current year 10s—Toby, Maisie and Max—for speaking about their own option choices.



Parents' Evening Opinions years 7-10

Thanks to those of you who have completed the parents' evening question in readiness for next year. Online or in person?

If you can complete this by next Friday please, I would be very grateful and I will share the findings with you. At the point of writing this, we have received 248 responses with 60% saying to remain online for parents' evening in 2022-23 and 12% having no preference.

I will very shortly be sending out a questionnaire to establish your thoughts around homework.

Leave of absence

Just a reminder that we need plenty of time to consider any extenuating leave of absence requests for students in order to allow for communication time between the school and you as parents. Thank you. Routine dentist and doctors' appointments should be made outside of school hours. Anything further should be made via a leave of absence form.

Wishing you all a super weekend ahead.

Next week, I look forward to updating you on our Super Learning Days for year 8 and years 9/10.

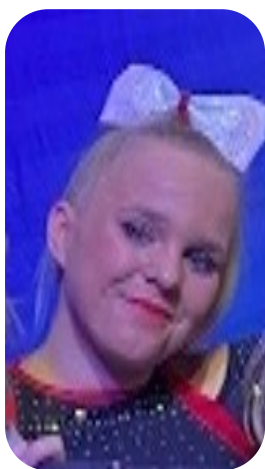
Best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Head teacher

Lola is back!

Freshly back from Florida, our World Champion, Lola has written an account of her success for you!

During the Easter holidays I flew out to Florida with Team England. We were competing in the ICU World Championships which take place every year. I competed in Youth Median and we were against some amazing teams. We competed at ESPN Worldwide Sports, a massive arena that is part of the Disney resorts. When we came out the whole arena was cheering on England. I knew my family and friends were out there, but the crowd were so loud. We hit zero, which is really rare in cheerleading, it means we had zero deductions for our performance, so a perfect run. I was so nervous at the awards ceremony as we knew we'd done really well and when we were announced winners and World Champions I was in shock. BBC Breakfast heard about what we had done and I had to get up at four o'clock the next morning to be interviewed with my team mate Ruby.



After all of the excitement about our Team England performance my club flew out. I compete in Coventry Dynamite TNT and we had won a bid to also compete in the World Championship Finals at a competition called The Summit. We had won the season in England and won a paid aid bid, meaning we were paid to go to America. We were the only English team to win



that for The Summit. We train at the best gyms when we are here, so I have trained at Top Gun All Stars and Brandon All Stars.

Last night we performed as TNT and were against 65 other teams. They are from all over the world and they are absolutely

amazing athletes. We did our routine and it was so nerve wracking as we wanted to win so much. Knowing you are up against such brilliant teams as Top Gun and California All Stars made me really nervous. We did our very best and hit zero again....we could not believe it! Everyone was crying with so much emotion. After a few hours the judges called us back to the arena to announce which 16 team had got through to finals. I don't think any English teams had ever got through to finals so we weren't expecting it. They called out my favourite teams, Top Gun, California All Stars.....Coventry Dynamite TNT. I could not believe it. Now we are into the finals. I don't know how we will do but I do know that we will all do our very best!

This whole trip has been like a dream...it doesn't seem real at all as we never expected to do so well!



Epraise—this week

Top Students this week:

1	Josh	9WE	18 points
2	Jacob	9WE	16 points
3	Toby	10MA	15 points
4	Maisie	10KA	14 points
4	Gianluca	9ST	14 points
6	Jack	10KA	13 points
6	Max	10TN	13 points
6	Isla	9WE	13 points
9	Jack	8HL	12 points
9	Oscar	7SI	12 points

Top Staff this week:

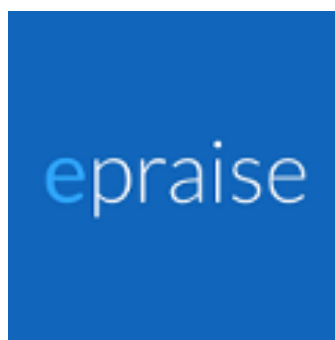
1	Mr Bowater	346 points
2	Mr Powell	329 points
3	Miss Lewis	207 points
4	Mr Dyer	182 points
5	Miss Burgess	179 points
6	Mr Yarrington	156 points
7	Mr Martin	102 points
8	Mr Jones	95 points
9	Miss Home	89 points
10	Miss Taylor	77 points

Top Tutor Groups this week:

1	7RA	156 points
1	7HT	156 points
3	7WI	135 points
4	7SI	134 points
5	9WE	133 points
6	8HL	126 points
7	8SO	125 points
8	7TY	119 points
9	8PK	118 points
10	9BW	112 points

Top Subjects this week:

1	Science	388 points
2	Geography	365 points
3	Maths	336 points
4	PE	294 points
5	English	270 points
6	Art	200 points
7	French	113 points
8	History	108 points
9	Btec Pe	71 points
10	Music	42 points



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

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

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 5.5.22

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
90.5%	92.0%	92.8%	90.2%	88.9%	90.9%

This week's top tutor groups

7RA, 8SO, 9ST, 10KA and 11HO!

Well done! Mrs Hodges

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

THE DEPOT YOUTH CLUB

Volunteer Youth Club Assistants needed at The Depot Youth Club in Alcester

Are you passionate about helping young people?
Interested in sport, mentoring, music or games?
Would you like to make a difference to young people's lives?

Are you available on Tuesdays between 6:30 - 8:30pm?

No experience necessary, just enthusiasm

For more information, either pop along one evening and ask for Becky or Phil, or email the Town Council:
info@alcester-tc.gov.uk Tel: 01789 766084

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

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR
Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (209494) and Scotland (SC0416663)

PLEASE DONATE

MOST NEEDED THIS MONTH

FRUIT JUICE	RAZORS
CORDIAL	ANGEL DELIGHT
TOILET ROLL	TINNED CARROTS
UHT MILK	RICE PUDDING
INSTANT COFFEE	TINNED HAM
DEODORANT	PASTA SAUCE
SHAVING FOAM	CLEANING PRODUCTS (FLASH/CIF ETC) 29/04/22

WHERE TO DONATE

LOCAL SUPERMARKETS

STRATFORD	OTHER COMMUNITIES
Tesco	Bidford Co-op
Morrisons	Bidford One Stop
Waitrose	Claverdon Community Shop
Aldi	Henley-in-Arden Co-op
Lidl	Mickleton Village Shop
Sainsbury's Local (Bridge St)	Tiddington Spar
Co-op Trinity Mead	Wilmcote Village Stores

FRED WINTER CENTRE IS NOW OPEN

SEE WEBSITE FOR TIMES

41 GUILD STREET

STRATFORD UPON AVON CV376QY

THANK YOU

Tel: 07736 929029
E-mail: info@stratforduponavon.foodbank.org.uk

Stratford-upon-Avon foodbank
Reg charity no 1153297

Vacancy Lead Teacher of RE



Starting September 2022

MPS1 £25,714 to UPS3 £41,604

Closing Date: Friday 20th May 2022 at 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 23rd 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. 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: 20th May 2022

Interviews: Week commencing 23rd 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](#)

World Scout Jamboree update by Toby

Hello everyone!

You may recall from a bulletin back in December last year that I have been selected to go to the World Scout Jamboree—August 2023. To be able to go I need to raise £3500. So far I have raised around £1500, but there's still a way to go!

In a couple of weeks I am going to do a fire walk at a scout camp on Saturday 20th May!! This is going to be quite scary, but I am really looking forward to it and it is a chance to try something completely different, and something I have never done before!

I am asking now, if you would be able to sponsor me and put a little money on my JustGiving page! It would make such a difference. Anything from 50p to £5 is greatly appreciated and will help me so much with my massive target of raising £3500. Thank you!

Toby

[Crowdfunding to fund Toby's trip to South Korea for the World Scout Jamboree in 2023!](#)
[on JustGiving](#)

JustGiving™



Reminders

EXAM PRESSURE CAN BE HARD TO MANAGE.

HERE ARE SOME HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR YOU.

- **RED Cross - Tackling Exam stress**
<https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources/tackling-exam-stress>
- **Young Minds - A guide for young people: Exam Stress**
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress>
- **Government UK**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students>
- **Other resources can be found at:**
 - NHS:
 - Student Minds



@cw_rise

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

PE Practices/Fixtures: week beginning 9.5.22:

Monday 9th May:

Year 8 & 9 Basketball (H) v AGS (selection letters issued)
Year 9/10 Rounders

Tuesday 10th May:

Year 8 Archery (invitation letters issued)

Wednesday 11th May:

Year 9/10 Rounders (H) v Shipston
Tennis Club (All years)

Thursday 12th May:

Year 7 & 8 Rounders
Athletics Club (All years)

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?

Aged 12-18 and want to learn?

Maximum of 8 athletes per coach

Monday - Friday
8am - midday

One week course
ONLY £195

Level 2 qualified coaching

Lots of fun!

#DiscoverYourGOLD

Ready for Paris '24!

BRITISH ROWING

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

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

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