

# Alcester Academy

## WEEKLY BULLETIN



7th April 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Good afternoon. We're slightly early in the week for our bulletin as we get ready for breaking up for Easter.

Thank you to Mr Powell for taking over last week's bulletin. What an array of talent from our sporting students! On the back of our Awards Evening this was just so lovely to read. Our students will be receiving various commendations from their subject teachers this week as we end the term with our awards and certificates for outstanding effort and work. Well done to everyone.

The big news of this week is the publication of our recent Ofsted report. I hope by now that you have had time to read this and take in all of the superb qualities identified throughout this:

*'Pupils are proud to attend Alcester Academy. Pupils in all year groups praise the support that they receive. They say that staff 'go the extra mile' for them. Relationships between adults and pupils are strong, and this helps to promote the positive culture of the school. Pupils and staff describe the school as 'like a family'. They treat each other with respect.'*

*'Staff have high expectations of all pupils and pupils are keen to meet these expectations'*

*'Pupils behave well. Lessons are rarely disrupted by unwanted behaviour'*

*'Leaders make sure that pupils know how to keep safe'*

*'The school's pastoral support is a strength,*



*and something that both pupils and parents really appreciate'*

*'Pupils consistently demonstrate the school's values of kindness, respect, tolerance, honesty and integrity'*

*'Staff are proud to be members of the school'.*

My Governor colleagues and I are delighted to receive the outcome of good for our recent Ofsted inspection and we congratulate all students and staff on that achievement.

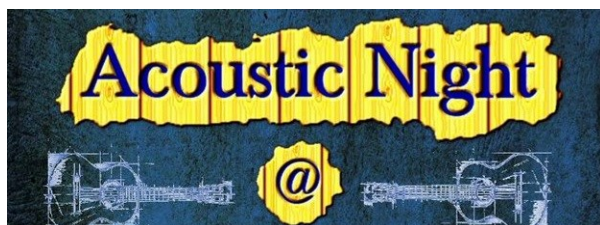
However at Alcester Academy we always believe we can be better and consequently, as a governing body, we are totally resolved to use every option open to us to gain the 'Outstanding' recognition our students and staff so richly deserve.

We find it completely unjust that the only issue preventing an Outstanding outcome was the use of a curriculum model with a 2 year key stage 3, an action we are absolutely entitled to take if it best suits our school. To make it even more unjust our model mirrors other schools nationally who follow the same 2 year KS3 curriculum model and who were all awarded Outstanding ratings in their last Ofsted inspections. This can be verified by accessing the Ofsted website and checking those schools.

If you feel as strongly as we do, please express your opinions to local councillors and our MP as our local representative, not as Secretary of State, as in that role he must recognise the independence of Ofsted. Please be assured that your Governors and I will use every route open to us to gain rightful recognition for Alcester Academy.

## Welcome back Rockers!

What a treat to be part of the concert at the Alcester Inn on Monday night! Welcome back Rock Academy. £740 was raised for Ukraine as a result of your kind donations. Thanks to Mr Badham and the team for an amazing night.



## Covid-19

### Covid statistics today:

Year 7—4 cases  
Year 8—1 cases  
Year 9—2 cases  
Year 10—3 cases  
Year 11—2 cases

I wrote to you on Tuesday with details of the latest guidance around Covid. If anything significant changes over Easter, I'll update you in the days before returning to school.

## Safeguarding over Easter

For Safeguarding support over half term, please contact:

**If a child is at immediate risk of serious harm requiring immediate action, call Warwickshire MASH on 01926 414144.**

**Lines are open from:**

**Monday to Thursday: 8:30am – 5:30pm,  
Friday: 8:30am – 5:00pm.**

### Out of hours

**If you need to get in touch out of usual office hours, please contact the Social Care Emergency Duty Team immediately on: 01926 886922**



**Mrs Mellors will be available if required for emergencies throughout the holiday.  
Contact [head@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:head@alcesteracademy.org.uk)**



## Year 7 Geography

It was a real treat this week being invited in to year 7 Geography to look through their amazing Sustainable Product Projects. Thanks Mrs Stedman. Well done year 7s.

## Uniform

We spent time running through the expected standard of uniform with all students this week in virtual assembly. If this could be respected, I would be extremely grateful. Thank you.

Tailored shorts are permitted after Easter for girls and boys. These are to be mid grey in colour, knee length with no cargo pockets. Here comes the sun!

## Year 8 Tasters

Year 8 enjoyed some taster lessons in readiness for options this week. We are looking forward to seeing year 8 parents in school on Wednesday 4th May at 6pm, for a presentation and further information about the options process.



## Year 9 Exams

Many congratulations to year 9s for finally completing their exams. I am extremely proud of the way in which the students have responded to these. I am also very grateful to students for continuing to wear a face covering during these. Thank you!



## Year 10 Young Enterprise

Many congratulations to our year 10 Young Enterprise Company for reaching the next stage of their competition this week.



**Hot off the press** — We have found out that our Young Enterprise company, Alcester Bee Collective, have won *Best Brand Image* in the Warwickshire and Coventry final event of the competition. Congratulations!



## Reports

Students in year 11 have received their final reports this week. We hope that these will be useful as the last few weeks before final exams transpire. Year 11s will also come home with a very important exam booklet. Please look out for this.

Year 7 and 8 students will get a data report that will be emailed home to parents.



Sign up to Warwickshire's Youth Conference 2022 at [www.childfriendlywarwickshire/youthconference](http://www.childfriendlywarwickshire/youthconference)

**THURSDAY 21 APRIL 2022**

**11am – 4pm (lunch provided)**

Woodland Grange, Old Milverton Ln, Leamington Spa, CV32 6RN

**Future Ready:** Warwickshire's Youth Conference will offer a friendly and empowering environment where young people and local organisations will come together to amplify the voices of tomorrow to help shape the county.





Naturally, we are limited on time now if you have any queries before term ends, but we will happily pick these up after Easter. Please contact Mr Cooke after Easter if required on this theme; [nickcooke@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:nickcooke@alcesteracademy.org.uk).

## Year 11 Easter Sessions

Monday 11th April:  
Geography (physical), online 10-11am

**Monday 11th April:**  
English, online 1-2pm

**Tuesday 12th April:**  
Maths, in school 10-12 noon

**Tuesday 12th April:**  
Physics, in school 12.30-1.30pm

**Wednesday 13th April:**  
Geography (human), online 10-12 noon

Thank you to staff for giving up their time over their holiday.

## Warwickshire Facebook Group for Ukrainian Visitors

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/505812777930811/>

I picked up this link from Councillor Piers Daniell this week if you are hoping to host a family in crisis soon.



## Non-uniform day

We are looking forward to raising funds for *Young Minds* and our local churches on Friday for our non uniform day. Please ensure that items worn to school are appropriate for school. Thanks so much. Donations can be made via the school gateway.



There is a parent helpline for *Young Minds*: Call for free on 0808 802 5544 from 9:30am - 4pm, Monday - Friday.

We break up at 12.40pm on Friday 8th April. There will be a one-way system operating for vehicles for the few minutes needed during pick up. Please enter Gerard Road via Captain's Hill and exit via Gerard Road leading into Throckmorton Road. This helps out such a lot.

## Good Luck Lola

We are wishing Lola in year 9 all the best as she flies out to Florida over Easter for the ICC World Champion Cheer Leading Contest *The Summit*. We are so proud of you Lola!



What a term this has been when I reflect! We have packed in so much yet again. The students have stepped up at every stage and have been a delight to work along side yet again. The school feels productive, happy and busy; just as it should be!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for absolutely everything they have done over this term again. Without, their support, we could not run exams, residential trips, clubs, catch up, revision and fixtures let alone all of the normal day to day experiences here. I'm not going to hide the fact that we are all ready for a break right now! I'm sure the students and you all are too. If you could respect the fact that staff will be on a well-deserved break over Easter, I'd be grateful. I can be contacted in an emergency as needed and several of us will be in school, or live online for the year 11 sessions.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for being unfailing in your support. On behalf of the staff and Governors, I wish you and the students a very restful and relaxing Easter break ahead.

Best wishes  
Sarah Mellors



Headteacher

# EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

As we come to the end of our spring term extra curricular activities we would like to congratulate all students who have taken part in them.

Now that students are thinking about which clubs to take part in over the summer please see below our top 10 reasons why extra curricular activities are important.



1. *You learn leadership skills.*
2. *You develop critical thinking skills.*
3. *Practise working in groups. Learning how to work together is an important life skill.*
4. *Learn a new skill.*
5. *Make new friends.*
6. *Life skills:*
  - Goal setting*
  - Teamwork*
  - Time management*
  - Prioritisation*
  - Problem solving*
  - Analytical thinking*
  - Leadership*
  - Public speaking*
7. *Add skills to your CV.*
8. *Develop your social skills.*
9. *Develop Self confidence.*
10. *Improve your academic performance.*

Miss Sacco

## 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](mailto:emmahome@alcesteracademy.org.uk) or  
Chair of Governors Mike Dean [mikedeane@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:mikedeane@alcesteracademy.org.uk)

## Epraise—Results this term (5.1.22—6.4.22)

epraise

### Top Students this term:

1	Molly	7HT	159 points
2	Jack	8HL	158 points
3	Jack	8PK	136 points
4	Fleur	7SI	123 points
5	Danny	7HT	119 points
6	Hannah	10MA	118 points
6	Sam	7RA	118 points
6	Isaac	8SO	118 points
9	Tibault	7SI	115 points
10	Harry	7TY	111 points

### Top Staff this term:

1	Mr Bastock	4218 points
2	Mr Yarrington	3274 points
3	Mr Bowater	3127 points
4	Miss Lewis	2413 points
5	Mr Martin	2380 points
6	Mrs Mellors	1946 points
7	Mr Powell	1932 points
8	Miss Burgess	1655 points
9	Miss Heitmuller	1291 points
10	Mrs Weatherley	1033 points

### Top Tutor Groups this term:

1	7HT	1870 points
2	7SI	1738 points
3	7RA	1702 points
4	7TY	1659 points
5	8SO	1658 points
6	11BR	1651 points
7	7WI	1612 points
8	8PK	1490 points
9	8HL	1474 points
10	9BW	1413 points

### Top Subjects this term:

1	Maths	5594 points
2	Science	4395 points
3	Geography	3864 points
4	English	3590 points
5	Art	3434 points
6	PE	1770 points
7	German	1407 points
8	IT	1368 points
9	History	1058 points
10	French	1012 points



### School Attendance — up to 6.4.22

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
90.4%	91.8%	92.7%	90.1%	89.0%	90.9%

### This week's top tutor groups

7RA, 8RO, 9BW, 10TN and 11HO

*Well done! Mrs Hodges*

## Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable

### Year 11

Full Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
 GCSE Examinations — Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May — Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
*(these dates are provisional and will be confirmed by the awarding bodies imminently)*  
 GCSE Contingency Day — Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 — all students must be available

### Year 10

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

### Year 9

Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March & 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
 Full Report published to parents/carers — Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
 Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### Year 8

Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
 Options Evening — Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022 — time tbc  
 Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### Year 7

Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
 In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
 Full Report published to parents/carers — Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

## Term Dates 2022

### SPRING TERM 2022

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 12.40pm

### SUMMER TERM 2022

Summer Term begins Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

May Bank Holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

Half Term Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Back to school Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Summer Term ends Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 3.25pm

**2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE**

## 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 <b>Maths (by invitation only)</b>	
Tuesday	Art/Photography	PTE
Wednesday	German (MFL2) Performing Arts/Music	iMedia and Computer Science Performing Arts/Music
Thursday	French (MFL1)	Art/Photography <b>Chemistry triple</b>
Friday	Geography	

Bring the kids to the  
**Holiday Lunch Club**  
on Wednesday 20th April 2022  
Opens at 12.30pm



at  
**The Depot, Eric Payne Community Centre**  
First come, first served!  
Don't miss out!

1ST ALCESTER RAINBOWS & 2ND ALCESTER BROWNIES  
WE DISCOVER, WE GROW  
Girlguiding  
Alcester & Avon Villages

**JUMBLE SALE**  
All proceeds donated to the DEC humanitarian aid for Ukraine and UPWA (Ukrainian Pet Association Worldwide)

**Saturday 23 April**  
**2:00pm-4:30pm**  
**Alcester Guide & Scout Centre**  
**Moorfields Road**  
**Alcester**  
**B49 5DA**

LADIES, MENS, KIDS CLOTHING & SHOES,  
TOYS, BOOKS, BRIC-A-BRAC, FURNITURE  
TEA & COFFEE STALL

ENTRANCE £1

TRADERS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT & EXTRA FEES APPLY

For more information or to make a jumble donation please email: [secondalcesterbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:secondalcesterbrownies@gmail.com)



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk).

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)



## 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**

**Spring**  
**FREE**  
**ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR FAMILIES**  
**OVER EASTER**

JOIN ESCAPE ARTS AT THE OLD H&M SHOP (BEHIND LUSH) IN BELL COURT FOR EASTER FUN ON GOOD FRIDAY 15TH & SATURDAY 16TH APRIL.

Make your own birds or insects out of junk materials and let your imagination RUN WILD.  
BEE KIND - plant some flowers to support wild birds and insects.  
Make your own Easter gift and BEE KIND by giving wildflower seeds to sow.

Buzz over to H&M and join us anytime between 10:30am&5pm. No need to book.

escape arts 25 YEARS  
STRATFORD UPON AVON BID  
BELL COURT



## PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE DURING EASTER HALF TERM 2022

### MARKS AND SPENCER

Kids eat free in the M&S Cafe if you spend £5. One free children's meal per transaction. Between 4th April and 22nd April.

### MORRISONS

Kids eat free all day, every day in Morrisons cafes nationwide with one paying adult. Plus they have the feed the family for £10 deal running at Easter

### YO! SUSHI

Pick any main, a side of edamame beans and drink and you'll get it free with a £10 adult spend throughout half term.

### ASDA

Kids eat free in Asda's cafes after 3pm Monday - Friday.

### GORDON RAMSAY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 12 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants.

### BELLA ITALIA

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid from 1st April - 24th April 2022

### TABLE TABLE, BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children get free breakfast with one paying adult! It has also been reported that if you sign up to their newsletter they send out a code for kids eat free, but I haven't personally tried this.

### THE REAL GREEK

Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult.

### DUNELM CAFE-PAUSA

Kids eat FREE when adults spend just £4 or more at Pausa cafes which you will inside Dunelm stores.

### PRETO

Kids under 12 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants.

### HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat breakfast free when accompanied by a paying adult, all day every day through the Easter holidays from 9am - 12pm.

### FARMHOUSE INNS

From 4th - 22nd April, Monday to Friday, up to two kids per paying adult can eat for just £1 each

AS SEEN ON MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



## Promoting a love of problem solving

The following are the results of the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge:



### Year 9

Morgan	Bronze
Sophie	Bronze
Jun	Bronze
Zac	Bronze
Josh	Bronze
Chris	Bronze
Rudy	Bronze
Rachel	Bronze
Ollie	Bronze
Sophie	Bronze
Holly	Bronze
Oli	Bronze
Kyle	Bronze
Thomas	Bronze
Katie	Bronze
Leo	Bronze
Jefferson	Bronze
Archie	Silver
Josh	Silver
Laith	Silver & Best in the Year

### Year 10

Harry	Bronze
Ted	Bronze
Toby	Bronze
Georgia	Bronze
Will	Bronze
Jack	Bronze
Charlotte	Bronze
Toby	Bronze
Isaac	Bronze
Seb	Bronze
Luke	Bronze
Hannah	Bronze
Joel	Silver
Edward	Silver
Romano	Silver
Ashton	Silver
Isabelle	Gold & Best in the Year

The Intermediate Mathematical Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice challenge, which encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The problems are designed to make students think. Most are accessible, yet still challenge those with more experience.

Mathematical congratulations - you will be receiving your certificate of participation shortly!

*Mr Dyer*

