

Alcester Academy

WEEKLY BULLETIN



8th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a more settled week this week. We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing coronavirus cases continuing to diminish here at the academy and it is really refreshing to see attendance picking up yet again. Thank you so much for on going support and your amazing communication with us throughout the last few weeks.

Today we saw a good proportion of the school receive their coronavirus vaccination and I would like to mention the conduct of the students was exemplary during the session. The NHS team here with us were brilliant. I want to also thank the school office and LSU for their support with the logistics of this feat.

We did complete a tutor activity with the students on their vaccine decision so that they could try and understand the full ramifications in an informed way. I took the opportunity then this week to invite the staff to receive their flu jab too in school just to be certain that we are all winter ready. Thanks to Regents Pharmacy for doing this with us for the second year running.

Coronavirus Update

Having sat in on the Warwickshire Head teacher's weekly briefing—the best advice for us is still to be lateral flow testing twice weekly.

Generally speaking, school cases are still rising although we are seeing at slight decline at Alcester Academy currently I'm pleased to say. Statistics in our area are still higher than other West Midlands counties. Please continue to be cautious.

Public Health England now falls under the title *UK Health and Security Agency*. This encompasses PHE, Test and Trace and the Joint Biosecurity Agency.

Year 11 interventions

Year 11 interventions began in earnest with the first round of mocks just five school weeks away now. It is great of the staff to give up additional time to run these opportunities for the students. Next week is week B of our offer for year 11.

Open Week 2021

At this point, I am delighted to say that we do intend to run Open Week next week. Morning tours are by appointment only at 9.30am. We open our doors then for Open Evening at 6.30pm on Tuesday 12th October. I will be asking visitors to wear face coverings and we are reducing capacity in the hall for the SLT presentations in order to mitigate any risk from a unnecessarily large audience. Our presentation has been pre-recorded and added to the website for you in order to be safest.

Black History Month

October sees the start of Black History Month and we will be recognising this within lessons and tutor time.

Follow [@AlcesterAcademy](https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk) and [@AlcesterHistory](https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk) to recognise key figures within our work this month. Mr Cooke led a whole school assembly



around this yesterday. The power of using TEAMS since lockdown has had huge positives for us in delivering presentations far more easily.



The Big Anti-Bullying Assembly 2021

On Tuesday, we were delighted to share the National Anti Bullying Assembly with students in tutor time. If you are concerned about your child being bullied, please contact LSU at school.

Meet The Tutor Evening – Year 7

After a very long spell away from meeting parents in person, it was so lovely to touch base with new year 7 parents last night. Thank you to those parents who attended. It was such a uplifting experience to see so many of you finally. Stay in touch with us as needed.

Year 11 Parents' Evening

As a reminder, year 11 Parents' Evening is via SchoolCloud on Thursday 21st October.

Uniform

Now that the cooler weather is approaching, please can I remind parents and students that hoodies are not permitted to be worn. I will address the ambient temperature in school when we need to in light of balancing ventilation with student comfort.

Drop In

We are continuing to run parental drop-ins each Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm.



Charity – Remembrance

We have re-opened the School Gateway for donations to sponsor a poppy again this year for the Royal British Legion. If you wish to commemorate a poppy to anyone dear to you at the start of November, please donate. Our record from last year to match (or beat!) was £1,500. If you recall, this gathered a lot of local interest in 2020. That's 300 poppies sponsorships to beat this year then. There is our challenge together.



On Thursday 21st October, we will be having a non uniform for Myton Hospice. This is a cause dear to our hearts. Again, this will be available on the Gateway for you.



New Site Supervisor

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr Hook to Alcester Academy. We hope that he will be very happy here with us.



Parent View – Ofsted

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Every year, we reach out to you in order to complete the very quick survey for Ofsted on Parent View. This resets each academic year for new entries. Just 50 parents completed this for 2020/21. 94% of these parents said that they would recommend the school to another parent, and 98% of parents agreed or



strongly agreed that their child was safe at Alcester Academy. Ofsted do look at the historical entries for this survey and it is therefore very important to us that this is completed if you can spare a few minutes please.

We would be very grateful to know if you are not satisfied with any area of school life so that we can positive address this please.



I'd like to take this opportunity to wish our Alcester Town 10K runners the best of luck for this weekends event. I'm aware that some students are running part of this as well through Marathon Kids UK.

To the families of covid sufferers right now, we are thinking of you all. I extend this to many of our staff right now too. Rest up and take care this weekend.

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Alcester Academy

Open Evening 2021

Tuesday 12th October - 6.30pm to 8.30pm



The Staff and Governors of Alcester Academy warmly invite you to our:

Open Evening

Tuesday 12th October - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Guided Open Mornings

Monday 11th October to Friday 15th October 2021

9.30am to include a SLT Q&A session

Alcester Academy is happy to open its doors to prospective parents for Open Week 2021. Respectfully we ask families to book just one guided open morning at their convenience during this week.

Please call the main office on 01789 762285 or alternatively email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Alcester Academy will run the Open Week events virtually, if required.

Please visit the school website to get the latest up-to-date information.

'There is a culture of high expectation in lessons.
Pupils are encouraged to aim high and
teachers do not accept mediocre answers.' *Ofsted 2019*

View our 360° tour at: <http://tours.lourdesit.org.uk/Alcester/>

Alcester Academy, Gerard Road, Alcester, B49 6QQ * Tel: 01789 762285 * Email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk * Website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk

Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable September 2021 – July 2022

Year 11

Data Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 20th October 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 21st October 2021 - 4-6.30pm
Virtual Parents' Forum — Tuesday 2nd November 2021 - time tbc
MFL Mock Speaking Exams — week commencing Monday 22nd November 2021
GCSE Mock Exams 1 — weeks commencing Monday 29th November & 6th December 2021
Mock Results & Parents' Evening — Thursday 6th January 2022 - 4-6.30pm
GCSE Mock Exams 2 — weeks beginning Monday 28th February & 7th March 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
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

Data Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 1st December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 2nd December 2021 – 4-6.30pm
Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 10th & 17th January 2022
Exam Results Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 17th February 2022
Internal MFL Speaking Exams — week commencing Monday 20th June 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 9

Data Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 15th December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 24th March 2022 – 4-6.30pm
Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 28th March & 4th April 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Friday 20th May 2022
Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18th July 2022

Year 8

Full Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 15th December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 3rd March 2022 - 4-6.30pm
In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 14th March 2022
Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
Options Evening — Wednesday 4th May 2022 — time tbc
Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

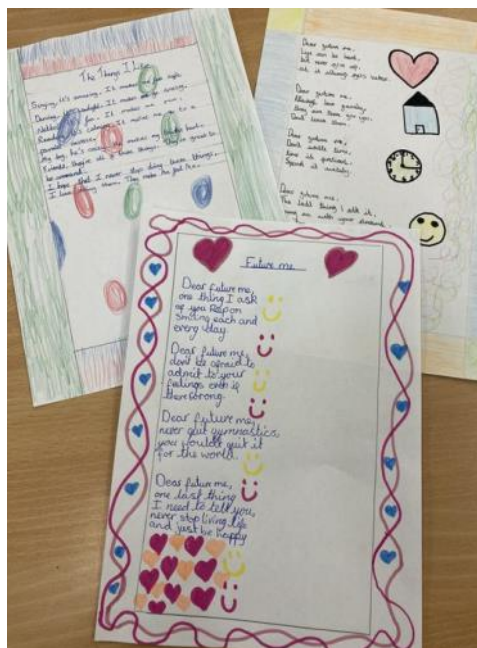
Year 7

Attitude to Learning Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 15th December 2021
Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 17th February 2022 – 4-6.30pm
Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 13th June 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 20th July 2022

National Poetry Day

As part of National Poetry Day our year 7s have been getting creative! The day started with some powerful poetry by John Agard in assembly and then students were encouraged to get creative in the classroom. Inspired by Young Writers UK, pupils have been thinking about a range of issues connected to the theme of empowerment and the results are fantastic! Students have written poems to their future selves; they have reflected on what makes them confident and they have shared their proudest moments and achievements. The English team will be judging their poetry next week and awarding certificates and prizes to the winning writers!

Mrs Farnell



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Just a reminder that next week most clubs have their last week for this half term.

The school show clubs will still be running.

**Follow us on Instagram:
@alcester_academy_clubs**

Workshop for year 11s wishing to pursue a career in law

This week we were delighted to welcome a lawyer to a lunchtime workshop with our Law Society students and year 11s wishing to pursue a career in law. Grace Skelton spent time discussing the ways into a career in the law and justice system, including her own anecdotes and experiences. Students were enthralled and enjoyed participating in the question-and-answer session.



Many of the students present are currently signed up to take part in the mock trial competition in 2022. This is a competition which gives students an insight and introduction into the workings of a courtroom, whilst competing against other schools to win a case. Mrs Skelton will be returning for further sessions to help prepare for the mock trial competition, as well as supporting and mentoring our current year 11s who have shown an interest in the justice system as a career.



Miss Bartlett

Epraise Updates—past 7 days

Top Scorers—past 7 days:

1	Maisie	10MA	38 points
2	Samuel	7SI	31 points
3	Callum	8KA	25 points
4	Jack	8HL	23 points
4	Olivia	8RO	23 points
6	Lilli	8HL	20 points
6	Dan	8SO	20 points
6	Jeremy	8KA	20 points
6	Jay	8HL	20 points
6	Mia	8SO	20 points

Top Tutor Groups—past 7 days:

1	7SI	313 points
2	7RA	280 points
3	7WI	275 points
4	7HT	274 points
5	8HL	273 points
6	7TY	269 points
7	8KA	254 points
8	8RO	248 points
9	8SO	247 points
10	8PW	218 points

Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mr Martin	606 points
2	Mrs Stedman	566 points
3	Mr Anderson	562 points
4	Mr Bastock	464 points
5	Mr Bowater	381 points

Top Subjects—past 7 days:

1	Geography	953 points
2	IT	741 points
3	Maths	734 points
4	Science	582 points
5	Art	360 points



epraise

Term Dates 2021—2022

AUTUMN TERM 2021

School closed

Friday 22nd October 2021

Teacher training day

Half term

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October 2021

Back to school

Monday 1st November 2021

Autumn Term ends

Friday 17th December 2021 at 12.40pm

SPRING TERM 2022

School closed

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Teacher training day

Spring Term begins

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Half Term

Monday 21st – Friday 25th February 2022

Back to school

Monday 28th February 2022

Spring Term ends (Easter)

Friday 8th April 2022

SUMMER TERM 2022

Summer Term begins

Monday 25th April 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

Thursday 21st July 2022 at 12.40pm

School closed

Friday 22nd July 2022

Warwickshire-honoured Bank Holiday (in lieu of the May half term Jubilee date)

[2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Science Revision Materials

Year 7 and 8

£3 direct from science

GCSE – Year 10 and 11

Combined science (10 sets 3 to 5
and 9 sets 3 to 5)

£6 direct from science

Triple science (10 set 1 and 2 and 9 set 1 and 2)

£9 direct from science



Revision Timetable for year 11

Please find below the intervention timetable for year 11s which commences next week.

Attending revision sessions is an important part of achieving the very best GCSE grades.

Pupils have had an assembly this week and should now be considering their commitments - putting in the effort now is the right decision!

Mr Cooke

WEEK A	Lunchtime	After school (3.30-4.30pm)
Monday	Informal Maths revision	
Tuesday	Informal Maths revision	Maths
Wednesday	DT	English
Thursday	Chemistry (Br) or Biology for Triple Alternate weeks - see dept lists	Biology (Cp) or Chemistry (Br) for Triple alternate weeks - see dept lists
Friday	Combined Science	

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


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THE GREAT

educaterers  A FOOD STORY


BAKE OFF

◀ **COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT STAR BAKER?** ▶

A great opportunity to showcase your skills, win one of 3 cash prizes and get the chance to lift the trophy and be named
EDUCATERERS BAKE OFF CHAMPION 2021

So get your whisks at the ready and send us a short video of you baking a sweet or savoury treat to take to a BONFIRE PARTY.
 Send your video to contactus@educaterers.co.uk by Friday 29th October.


Judging will take place w/c 1st November, with the best 3 star bakers going forward to a live cook off in November where finalists will be asked to create a showstopper Winter Wonderland cake.



Don't forget to include your name and the name of your bake and please put Bake Off Video in the subject box on the email. The competition is open to all Educaterers' colleagues and clients

TOP TIP - The video needs to give an outline of what you are doing, with some really good shots of the finished bake, so just keep it nice a simple.

If you love to bake, don't delay have a go today.



Showstoppers...

Attached are some photos of year 11 practical element in Hospitality and Catering this week. I thought it might be nice to include a collage in the bulletin. They have been looking at presentation of food and have produced a starter this week.

The students have really enjoyed being able to do practical work again and wanted to show off their work. Well done everyone!

Miss Wincup



European Day of Languages prize winners

Congratulations to tutor groups 7WI, 8PW and 10BI. You are the lucky winners of a French breakfast for your tutor group. Thank you to all tutor groups who participated in our quiz!



Congratulations to the following students for their French poems entitled 'Si j'étais... - If I were'. A certificate and prize will be with you next week.

Year 7

Faith
Jay
Skye

Courtney
Danny
Dylan
Will
Natasha
Jess
Dan
Shannon

Year 8

Alex
Kobe
Zak

Onny
Brandon
Chloe
Jess
Mim
Katherine
Jess
Maya
Darcie
Emily
Mercy
Chloe
Charlie
Charlotte
Archie
Ben
Tom

Year 9

Leo
Hannah
Emily
Katie
Kara



Our winners of the teacher bingo activity are: Charlotte and Alice – year 8.
Félicitations!!! *Mrs Weatherley*

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.

School Attendance — up to 30.9.21

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
94.0%	92.3%	90.9%	90.7%	84.6%	90.8%

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

We have several fixtures coming up, so it is important that students attend in order to be considered for teams.

PE Practices/Fixtures: week beginning 11/10/21:

Monday 11th October:	Year 7 Football
Monday 11th October:	Year 7 & 8 Netball
Tuesday 12th October:	Open Evening
Wednesday 13th October:	Year 10 Football (away) vs St Benedicts
Wednesday 13th October:	Year 7 & 8 Girls Football
Thursday 14th October:	Year 9 South Warwickshire Netball Tournament @Stratford School
Thursday 14th October:	Year 11 Football

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.



Alcester Academy Retweeted



Alcester Academy PE @AAcademy_PE · 18h

Tonight saw the concluding episode of our football trilogy with [@StBenedictsUK](#) The Yr9's gave a good account of themselves in a 4-2 defeat and should be proud of the way they played. Well done all [#GoAcademy](#)

