



# The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

## PARENT BULLETIN No. 94

### 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

#### Welcome...

We have had a bit of disruption this week as you know due to teacher strikes. Sadly it looks like teaching unions and the Government are not reaching a resolution and there may well be further strikes in the Autumn Term. These strikes are likely to include all four teaching unions and therefore this could increase the amount of disruption to learning.

Obviously the dispute is centred around pay for teachers, and it is clear that schools face a significant challenge in recruiting and retaining teaching staff. One element of the dispute is that if a pay-rise is agreed, school's may not receive any extra funding to support these salary increases, and so they would have to be paid out of the existing school budget. This could have a very real impact on school funding.

However, I am pleased to say that AVA is fully staffed for September, unlike many schools I am aware of. We have been aware of this impending crisis and have taken proactive steps to ensure we are prepared for September.

Despite this prospect, there is still a huge amount to feel positive about. The Summer Term is often the busiest and we have seen multiple Sports Days, performances and trips taking place during the good weather. Such an important part of school life.

The weather forecast for next week looks mixed, and so we will expect students to be in full school uniform, including ties and blazers.

A reminder that we close on **Thursday 20 June at 12.25pm**. Children entitled to Free School Meals will be able to collect a packed lunch as they leave if they wish to.

Have a good weekend.

**Gavin Gibson**  
Academy Principal

#### Contacting the School:

Year 7: [year7enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year7enquiries@theacademy.me)

Year 8: [year8enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year8enquiries@theacademy.me)

Year 9: [year9enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year9enquiries@theacademy.me)

Year 10: [year10enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year10enquiries@theacademy.me)

Year 11: [year11enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year11enquiries@theacademy.me)

Post 16: [post16@theacademy.me](mailto:post16@theacademy.me)

#### Key Links:

[Secondary website](#)

[Parents' evenings](#)

[EduLink One](#)

[Trips/Lunch money](#)



## Summer Holiday finish time

As we approach the Summer Holidays, please be aware that school will finish at **12.25pm** on **Thursday 20 July**. Children who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to collect a takeaway packed lunch as they leave site.



### History Hero

This week's History Hero is **Mega E** in Year 7. Megan consistently demonstrates the Academy values in lessons, as well as on the recent trip to the Black Country Cliving Museum.

## Year 10 and 11 Level Up Outdoors Trip

At Aylesbury Vale Academy, we believe that when students reach Year 10 and 11, they should develop their Cultural Capital skills and experiences as well as their academic skills. This is why we have organised a day at Level Up Outdoors, who specialise in unique experiences that educate and inspire people of all ages.

Current Year 9 and Year 10 students will take part in activities that underpin our core values, such as selfless commitment, courage, discipline, integrity, loyalty, and respect.

Along with this, the students will learn about leadership, delegation, communication, teamwork, problem solving and confidence building, all whilst having fun and creating memories in their final year at AVA.

The activities we will be undertaking on the day are Archery, Jacob's ladder, Raft building and Canoeing.

Students are expected to wear casual sportswear and appropriate trainers. They will also need to bring the following items for the trip:

- Packed lunch (no nuts)
- Water bottle
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers (optional)
- Change of clothes
- Towel



The trip is on **Friday 22 September 2023** at Level Up Outdoors, Marlow. We will be leaving school at 8.30am and will arrive back at approximately 4pm.

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £40 and payment can be via ParentPay by Friday 10 September.

Please also complete the medical form [here](#) to secure a place on the trip. Places will be issued on a first come, first served basis.

School trips are a privilege, and the success of these trips is very much dependent upon the continuing excellent behaviour of our students, as a result, we reserve the right to refuse a student a place on a trip, or to withdraw a student at any time from a trip as a result of poor behaviour. This will result in forfeiting any payments made towards the trip.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Leach on [year11enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year11enquiries@theacademy.me)



## The Power of Poetry

AVA students have had a huge amount of success after entering the Young Writers Power of Words poetry competition.

A number of students have been selected to have their entries published, and each will receive a certificate and a bookmark for their efforts.

Parents will receive a slip they need to complete to give permission for their child's work to be included for publication.

Winners are:

Aaditya A  
Yahya K  
Leo C  
Nicholas B  
Tamzin W  
Princess T  
Mia B

Nethmitha P  
Ingrid C  
Anwen R  
JJ B  
Shyla S  
Zainab P  
Janhavi K

Chloe M  
Dhwani P  
Ruqaiyah N  
Melvina K  
Emily B  
Ava-Mai G  
Joleen C

Chloe D  
Kian B  
Elise B  
Tamara A  
Riley B  
Alisha A  
John B

Lucas B  
Ava G  
Jake C  
Roza W  
George M  
Louis R  
Gethen A

# THE POWER OF POETRY

## Tech 4 Learners Laptop Hire Purchase Scheme

Aylesbury Vale Academy is very pleased to be partnering with Freedom Technology in order to offer parents and carers the opportunity to purchase a laptop to support their child's home learning.

At AVA all home learning is set and monitored electronically using MS Teams, meaning home access to technology is vital for success in the Secondary phase.

### The Aylesbury Vale Academy

Tech 4 Learners



Laptops can be bought upfront with one payment, or the cost can be split into monthly payments. Laptop purchase comes with a full service/repair package included and if the problem cannot be fixed straightaway, a temporary laptop can be loaned out whilst yours is repaired.

Please see the attached leaflets for more information on the products available and the different payment plans.

If your child is on the SEN register or eligible for support through Pupil Premium funding please use the designated login details, as the Academy is committed to subsidising costs for these students.

If you are unsure of your child's status, please contact AVA and will advise. Children eligible for Free School Meals or children in care will be supported with access to technology via different means and are also encouraged to speak to staff at the Academy if they have queries about this.

The ordering portal will be open until **Thursday 10 August** and all further details about the scheme can be found by accessing the portal using the credentials in the leaflets provided.



## Buckinghamshire Council Summer Holiday Family and Young people events

Bucks Council have launched a series of free summer holiday events providing activities for families and young people.

Family Fun mornings will take place at the following times:

**Wednesday 26 July** – Elmhurst Family Centre

**Thursday 3 August** – Buckingham Family Centre

**Tuesday 8 August** – Southcourt Family Centre

**Friday 18 August** – Wing Family Centre

**Wednesday 23 August** – Berryfields Family Centre  
**Thursday 31 August** – Steeple Claydon Family Centre

These family mornings will be followed by Youthspace events running from 1pm to 4pm at the same venues on the same dates. Aimed at 11 to 19-year-olds, they include activities such as Graffiti Workshops, Switch console tournaments, Henna and festival face-painting, sports, a DJ Workshop and a chance to Meet the Animals.

## Careers

### Discover careers in healthcare at NHS Open Day

Looking to discover careers in healthcare? Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust is holding an Open Day as part of its NHS 75th birthday celebrations. See the attached flyer for more information.

- **What:** Be inspired by careers talks, a health and social care careers fair and behind the scenes tours
- **Who:** All students, parents, carers, family and friends welcome
- **Where:** Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury
- **When:** 11am – 2pm on Saturday 29 July 2023



**NHS 75**

Buckinghamshire Healthcare  
NHS Trust

### Discover careers in healthcare at our Open Day

Saturday 29 July

10am – 2pm

Stoke Mandeville Hospital

[careers.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk](https://careers.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk)

There's no requirement to book in advance, but if you register beforehand, you'll be emailed an Excellence in Healthcare booklet. You can do so [here](#).



**Mrs Weedon says...** What a fantastic week for most of our Year 7s, working hard in lessons, supporting with the Year 6 transition days, litter picking and taking part in a range of sports clubs. Even with summer term almost coming to an end there is still so much happening, and the students have been amazing.

With the weather being all over the place and as we get closer to the summer break, we still need to remain focused and continue doing our best

right until the very end. The countdown is on, enjoy your 3-day weekend!

Two exciting new clubs are now open to Year 7: Martial Arts in A-01-07, 3pm - 4pm every Wednesday with ZKS Martial Arts, and Rugby on the Field, 3pm - 4pm every Thursday with a Rugby Coach. If your child would like to participate, they just need to bring PE kit. These sessions are run by an external coaches, and will provide a fantastic opportunity for Year 7 to try a new activity.

### Transition Evening helpers

Well done **Elisha M**, **Megan P**, **JJ B** and **Marley P** for supporting with transition evening. They were brave and spoke very well about their experiences as Year 7 students at the academy. There were also several other students who helped with tours and activities throughout the day. We are very proud of how supportive they have been and the great role models they are.

This week in tutor time Year 7 continued with the numeracy programme and their personal development booklets. This is in addition to looking at the word of the week, where they get achievement points if they can use the word in a sentence throughout the day. They also completed part of their career's booklet, look at the skills they want to improve for future job prospects.

This week's community assembly discussed celebration and spreading positivity. Students nominated their favourite teachers for Star Staff awards, and wrote a thank you note to that member of staff. This could be from one amazing thing did or for something they do consistently well. Teachers will receive these messages at the end of the year – what a great way to end the year!



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 13 July Awards Evening

Thursday 20 July Final day of term

## Year 7 Academy Values Awards

respect

Aleesha K  
Jess C  
Megan P  
Princess T  
Alistair G  
Mia O  
Amy B  
Imogen C  
Roxanna B

aspiration

Jess D  
Maisie W  
Isla-Rose B  
Ava-Mai G  
Eloise C  
Dihein W  
Tianna H  
Emma B

resilience

Maise-Rae N  
Zainab P  
George D  
Christian A  
Albie B  
Zihan Q  
Zack J  
Madi B

### Weekly Form Competition

#### Form Achievement Points:

1. Nobel 1
2. Nobel 3
3. Nobel 2

#### Individual Achievement Points:

1. Jayden C
2. Miley O
3. Jess C

#### Form Attendance (%):

1. Nobel 1
2. Nobel 3
3. Faraday 1

#### Honourable Mentions:

Transition Evening's student helpers

Any enquiries, please contact [year7enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year7enquiries@theacademy.me)

Mrs Weedon and the Year 7 Team



### Mr Wakefield says...

A short 3-day week, this week. With only 9 days left of the summer term, students are continuing to excel within their subjects. A differing week for the weather, with some cooler temperatures, meaning ties and blazers have joined the uniform once again.

One of our fantastic Year 8 students, **Freya R**, went through a very scary situation recently. A man collapsed while **Freya** was playing at a park. **Freya**, used

the first aid training she learnt at army cadets and phoned an ambulance with another member of the public. **Freya** she later found out the man had suffered a heart attack, and her quick thinking and calm nature saved this gentleman's life. We commend her absolutely.

Please make sure we are upholding the AVA uniform policy throughout the last few weeks. School shoes, ties, blazers and tucked in shirts are all beginning to creep up in volume.





We look forward to welcoming Rev. Lane for an assembly next week. We have lost assemblies due to exam season and so it will be a pleasure to have these back on, giving our students a wider variety to their tutor programme.

**Dates for you Diaries:**

**Wednesday 19 July Awards Assembly**

## Year 8 Academy Values Awards

**respect**

**Harry G  
Breanna J  
Mimi B  
Alexandra M**

**aspiration**

**Aidan A  
Mariia K  
Louis R  
Salem Y**

**resilience**

**Kyran S  
Niamh H  
Millie M  
Travis S**

### Weekly Form Competition

#### **Form Achievement Points:**

1. **Faraday 3**
2. **Nobel 2**
3. **Nobel 3**

#### **Individual Achievement Points:**

1. **Alexandra M, Olivia U and Temi O**
2. **Rupert W**
3. **Kairon C**

#### **Form Attendance (%):**

1. **Nobel 1**
2. **Nobel 3**
3. **Franklin 3**

#### **Honourable Mentions:**

1. **Zach P** for volunteering to assist on Transition Day on Wednesday. **Zach** did a fantastic job supporting a class of Year 6 students.
2. **Freya R** for her quick and calm response when she saw a member of the public in urgent need of medical attention. **Freya's** Army Cadet First Aid training come to the fore when she most needed it.

Any enquiries, please contact [year8enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year8enquiries@theacademy.me)  
Mr Wakefield and the Year 8 Team



**Mr Hawley says...** Funnily enough this week has been quiet. I'm sure the students don't mind a three-day week. Students are tired and itching for Summer but are still working hard. I was reflecting on the year on the drive home the other day and I was thinking about how much the Year Group have matured, and how different they are than they were in September.

A big thank you to all those students who came in on the strike day to take part in an art project. Making seals out of willow, they looked beautiful and it shows how aspirational our students can be. Well done to **Alan P** and **Ash M**.

Thank you to parents for helping their children with their revision. Students have been telling me about what they have been doing at home. They will get their mock results in due course.

#### **Celebration assembly**

We are celebrating year 9 achievement next Thursday. If any parents would like to add something please let me know: [nhawley@theacademy.me](mailto:nhawley@theacademy.me)

**Celebrate  
SUCCESS**

With mocks finished, we turn back to assemblies and reflection. We will be having assemblies celebrating success and looking back to see how far we have come.

## Year 9 Academy Values Awards



**Rehan N** for being mature.  
For being a respectful young man who cares for his family.



**Elisha W** for trying to get a work placement a year early!



**Josh H** for overcoming adversity to get himself into school to complete a mock.

### Weekly Form Competition

#### Form Achievement Points:

1. Nobel 1
2. Faraday 3
3. Faraday 2

#### Form Attendance (%):

1. Nobel 3
2. Franklin 2
3. Faraday 3

#### Individual Achievement Points:

1. Megan W
2. Lucy M
3. Haider A

#### Honourable Mentions:

1. Charlie S
2. Lily N

Any enquiries, please contact [year9enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year9enquiries@theacademy.me)  
Mr Hawley and the Year 9 Team



**Mr O'Leary says...** Both myself and Miss Porter would like to take this opportunity to say how impressed we have been with our Year Group over the whole exam period. The maturity and resilience they have shown proves how ready they are for Year 11.

#### Tutor time

This week Year 10 have spent their tutor times

revising and preparing for their mock exams.

#### Study Higher Mentoring.

We have managed to secure further study higher mentoring sessions for the year group which will run until April.

#### Adviza Careers mentoring

Individual students have been selected to receive Adviza careers mentoring during the week, students involved will be informed.

#### Health for Teens

Please visit this [website](#) for more information about the Health for Teens service, which was announced to Year 10 during their assembly last week.



# STUDY HIGHER

# Year 10 Academy Values Awards

respect

aspiration

resilience

Sophia D, Munashe N, Callum W, Emily M, Angel A, Tamara A, Haleena P, Isabella H, Sabah K, Ocean J, Akisharra J, Eleanor C, Eleanor G, Chantai C, Jamini V, Summer U, Jessica B, Maisie F, Ruqayya S

## Weekly Form Competition

### Form Achievement Points:

1. Franklin 1
2. Franklin 3
3. Nobel 2

### Form Attendance (%):

1. Franklin 2
2. Nobel 3
3. Faraday 1

### Individual Achievement Points:

1. Sophia D
2. Callum W
3. Munashe N

### Honourable Mentions:

1. Ruby M
2. Myra Z
3. Jessica W

Any enquiries, please contact [year10enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year10enquiries@theacademy.me)  
Mr O'Leary and the Year 10 Team



**Mrs Leach says...** It's safe to say the Year 11s enjoyed the prom and it was lovely to see them all in their prom outfits. The dancefloor was full all evening and it was the perfect ending to their time at AVA.

*"A massive thank you again for giving us prom and making it as good as it was."*

*"The students had an amazing time and made many memories with their AVA community that will*

*no doubt stay with them forever!"*

*"A huge thanks to all who so kindly gave up their time to be there for them, not just last night but all throughout their education at AVA."*

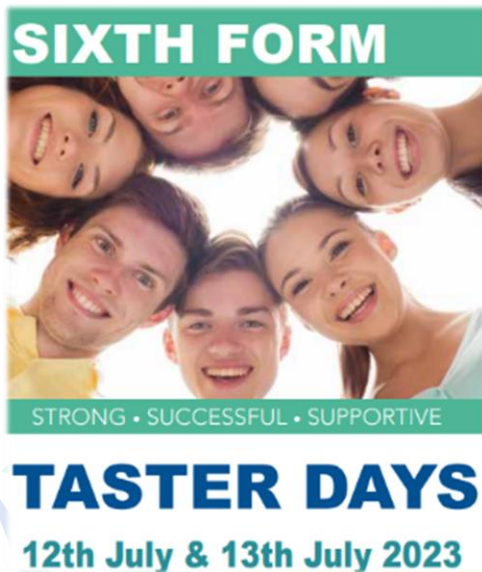




## Sixth Form Taster Days

Are you ready to take your education to the next level? We invite you to embark on an exciting journey and explore the possibilities of our Sixth Form at Aylesbury Vale Academy.

Mark your calendars for our exclusive Taster Days and get a taste of the remarkable educational experience that awaits you.



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

## GCSE Results

GCSE results will be available to collect from AVA on **Thursday 24 August 2023**. Timings will be communicated in due course.

If your child can't attend results day, they need to make the school aware

Exam results can be handed to Parents or Carers, **but we must have written permission from the child to be able to do this.**

After GCSE results day all students **must** complete Buckinghamshire Council's 16 Plus Survey. Information about the survey for students is on the attached flyer. Please encourage your young person to fill this in promptly once they have their results. The Council will use it to report which young people are in learning or work to the Department for

Education.

Please note that if a young person doesn't complete the survey, they may be contacted to check whether they are in learning or work next term. Contacts are made by Buckinghamshire Council staff or their representatives. You can find out more about how and why they do this here: [POST-16 Survey](#)

**Any enquiries, please contact** [year11enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year11enquiries@theacademy.me)  
**Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team**

**Thank you for all your support**