



# The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

## PARENT BULLETIN No. 88

### 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Welcome...

Last week I shared the successes of some amazing teenage athletes. This week we have yet another AVA student who has risen to a championship level. We are so proud of **Kian B** who has become an Ultimate Karting Champion. Kian is a great student who brings the same level of focus to school as he does on the track.

Staying with a racing theme our Year 10 Engineering and Design Technology were off to Silverstone this week to take part in engineering workshops and visit the hallowed track, home of some of Formula 1's most memorable moments.



I maintain that not all learning in a classroom and it is these experiences which really help to shape a child's **aspiration**.

Although we have had one or two GCSE exams already so far, Year 11s begin their exams in earnest on **Monday 15 May**. They have worked very hard for this moment in their lives, and we wish them the very, very best of luck. Go well Year 11!

The Aylesbury Vale Academy  
RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE



Wishing our Year 11 students the best of luck in their exams

**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](#)



## History News

### Subject Superstar

This week's **History Hero** is **Jack A** in Year 8. **Jack** always works hard and regularly contributes in lessons, which has seen him exceeding his target grade. Well done **Jack!**



## Design & Technology Trip to Silverstone

On **Wednesday 10 May**, Design Technology and Engineering students visited Silverstone. The students spent the day visiting the exhibition space alongside the circuit itself, which incorporates the history of Silverstone as well as the history of motorsport.

The various exhibits also allowed students to explore the wider aspects of racing, including medical support, the mechanics, safety and via the Tech Lab, the technology and engineering itself, as well as the opportunity to get close to genuine raced vehicles, clothing and other related items.

Students also had access to the Heritage Track Trail, where they got the chance to walk on a section of the original Silverstone Circuit. This provided them with a great view of some areas of the current circuit and they were lucky enough to see some race bikes



taking part in a track day!

We also took part in a STEM

Workshop in a dedicated Learning Studio overlooking the circuit. Students had the opportunity to get hands-on with genuine items of motorsport technology including a



fuel tank made of Kevlar, racewear suits and a Carbon fiber rear spoiler wing. With the day sparking some keen interest in careers they also explored the many career paths and entry options into the sector.

## Health for Teens

The Buckinghamshire NHS Trust school nursing service recently visited AVA to introduce the new Health for Teens website, and Chat Health to our Year 10 and 11 students.

Health for Teens is a unique, award-winning website created by and for young people to improve access to health care. Content is presented through six areas: Feelings, Growing UP, Health, Lifestyle, Relationships and Sexual Health. You can visit the website [here](https://www.healthforteens.co.uk).



Chat Health provides confidential help and advice via text for 11 to 19-year-olds living in Bucks on 07312 263295. Teens can get professional health advice from Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays. Responses are sent with in 24 hours.



## Coronation Celebrations

Our student led 6<sup>th</sup> Form did a fantastic job leading the school Coronation celebrations on Friday.

During break time our 6<sup>th</sup> Formers treated students in the Atrium to an AVA Coronation Concert playlist in the Atrium, and ran the Coronation green screen where students in KS3 and teachers had their picture taken outside Buckingham Palace.

Thanks to **Keira L**, **Kieran S**, and **Emma E** for running the events for the younger years.

Winners of the Coronation form time challenges will be announced on **Monday 15 May**.



## AVA'bury Festival 2023

Tickets for the AVA'bury Festival are selling fast – you can order yours [here](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/aylesburyvaleacademy/) to avoid missing out.

Once you click on the link you will be prompted to register with the school account, please follow the instructions and then click on the 'What's On' tab on the top left-hand corner. Tickets will be sent electronically and will be scanned upon entry to the festival.

If you have any questions about the event, please contact us on [avafestival@theacademy.me](mailto:avafestival@theacademy.me)

## Sponsoring AVA events

We are looking for local businesses to sponsor our upcoming events, such as the AVA'bury Festival. If you would like free publicity for your event, please let us know.

## Evening of Expression

Join us for an unforgettable evening of creativity and cultural celebration at the AVA Youth Social Action group's **Evening of Expression** on **Tuesday 20 June** from **6.30pm to 8:30pm** in the Main Hall.

Our talented staff and students will showcase a variety of talents such as singing, dancing, art, and fashion. Wear something to represent your culture and join us in appreciating the beauty in our differences.

Your contribution will make a significant difference in the lives of those who need it the most. All proceeds will go towards the various charities we support and aid in the future funding of our Youth Social Action programme. Get your tickets for only £3 and be a part of something truly special.



## Literacy Lessons

Some of our Year 7 and 8 students are following a literacy skills course to develop their reading skills.

We have been recognising their achievements and awarded certificates for those who have shown particular resilience or been resourceful during lessons. These are also two of our AVA Cognition values and it's great to see our students understanding what these values really mean in the classroom.

It is a delight to see so many enjoying these lessons and showing us their progress.

# Careers



## NHS Vascular Degree Apprenticeship

NHS England are hosting a webinar to discuss the new vascular degree apprenticeship.

The webinar will include a presentation from the program lead at the University of Gloucester, Tracy Longden-Thurgood, who will discuss the course delivery model, education modules, assessment formats, entry requirements and structure of the three years. There will be an open forum for questions at the end.

If you are interested in learning more, register on the event page

below, or contact me on [ryan.ward4@nhs.net](mailto:ryan.ward4@nhs.net). You can also see more details [here](#).

## Adviza Webinars

Adviza are hosting three Free Virtual Webinars available in May for students/parents/teachers from all year groups.

### Textiles - 23rd May, 6pm to 7pm

This is ideal for anyone interested in Fashion and Art and Design, Product Design and Design Technology. Click [here](#) to book.



## Mrs Weedon says...

Well done to all the amazing students who have worked very hard this week and have demonstrated the school values consistently. Mrs Howe and I have really enjoyed getting to know them and all the exciting things they do in their spare time.

Thank you to the 10 year 7 students that helped with writing postcards for students in year 6 who will be starting year 7 in September. They gave tips and talked about what it was like for them to start year 7. They are **Noelani S, Nica W, JJ B, Skye W, Ava G, Madi B, Amir C, Elisha M, Kian B, and Daniyal R**, and as a token of thanks, all students have received a free ticket to

the AVA'Bury Festival on **Saturday 24 June**.

Well done to **Kian B** who won the Ultimate Karting Championships, coming in a comfortable 10 seconds ahead of his nearest rival in second place. **Kian** will now take place in the British Championships.

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.

Our community assembly this week was hosted by Mrs Michhiana, who delivered a very informative assembly on the coronation and the significance of the pieces used in the process. The monarchy has played an important role in the history of this country and has great influence on how our country is run today. Millions of people watched the coronation, and it brought lots of people together. There were street parties, teas and we even celebrated at the academy with free cupcakes.

Students must make sure to write their timetables in their planners, so they have a spare copy if they lose it or have left it at home. It is very important that all students arrive to lessons on time to make a prompt start to their learning. PE kit must be brought in when they have PE lessons. Please make sure Ties are replaced if they have been lost, they are a compulsory part of the school uniform.

### Dates for you Diaries:

**Friday 19 May – Sunday 21 May** Year 7 & 8 PGL Lidington trip



# Year 7 Academy Values Awards

respect

Cherice G  
Emilija S  
Humna Q  
Calleigh C  
Lucas B  
Melvina K  
Elise B  
Calleigh C  
Mia B  
Pal P  
Noelani S  
Alice M,

aspiration

Ashlee B  
Megan L  
Effie D  
Dihein W  
John BM  
Noor B  
Freya C  
Abigael G  
Aeshah M  
Sophie K  
Madi B  
Harvey P

resilience

Eoin C  
Grace H  
Matthew L  
Effie D  
Michael B  
Sharon G  
Kyle S  
Finley P  
Ava W  
Emilija S  
Elizabeth N  
Jai P  
Anya V

## Weekly Form Competition

### Form Achievement Points:

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

### Individual Achievement Points:

1. Vidushi T
2. Nico K
3. Nihal M

### Form Attendance (%):

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

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

Mrs Weedon and the Year 7 Team



**Ms Dutson says...** An excellent return after another long weekend this week. A fantastic assembly from Mrs Michianna who explained a little more in depth about the coronation and the deep routed history the concept holds.

A huge congratulations to two of our Year 8 students who went to America over the last week to compete in The Summit Championships in Florida, along with a year 7 and year 10. Below is a message from their

coach on their huge success.

"The amount of pride for these 19 individuals is unbelievable... the journey they have been on has been testing for sure, but the resilience and heart shown from these guys is nothing short of amazing.

"From only being able to hit our routine 2 times in Season 8 to having over 40 hits this season shows the mindset, work ethic and sheer determination of Apollo..."





Below is a reminder of our PE afterschool clubs. We will be holding fixtures in Rounders and Athletics so if your child would like to be part of these teams, visiting a variety of local schools to compete then please ensure they are attending. It is a great opportunity for them to have some friendly competition during a busy and stressful summer term.

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Rounders</b> with Mrs Haynes and Mr Morgan (field) <b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Tennis</b> with Mr Smith (MUGA)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Badminton</b> (softball when the Sports Hall is being used for exams) with Mr Lobb (Sports Hall/field) <b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Cricket</b> with Mr Wakefield and Mr Morgan (Astro)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Year 7 – 10 Body Fitness</b> with Mrs Crumpton (Dance Studio) <b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Athletics</b> with Mr Smith and Miss Gibbs (Field)

### Year 6 to 7 Transition

Mrs Leach would like to offer a huge 'thank you' to the following students, who spent time this week writing postcards to our new Year 7s starting in September:

**Zach P, Ellina S, Elizabeth B, Freddie K, Poppy P, Jennifer B, Julia B, Alyssa T, Isabella H, and Kartik V.** As a token of thanks, all students have received a free ticket to the AVA Bury Festival on **Saturday 24 June.**

### Dates for your Diary:

**Friday 19 May to Sunday 21 May** PGL Lidington trip

**W/C Monday 12 June** National School Sports Week (including Sports Day)

**Friday 30 June** District Athletics at Stoke Mandeville Stadium

**February 2024** Austria Ski Trip

## Year 8 Academy Values Awards



**Olivia U**  
**Alexandra M**  
**Zach P**  
**Ellina S**



**Temi O**  
**Elizabeth B**  
**Freddie K**  
**Poppy P**



**Gabrielle O**  
**Jennifer B**  
**Julia B**  
**Alyssa T**

### Weekly Form Competition

#### Form Achievement Points:

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

#### Form Attendance (%):

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

#### Individual Achievement Points:

1. Alexandra M
2. Batool B
3. James K

#### Honourable Mentions:

**All Year 8 students** who helped Mrs Leach with transition work

Any enquiries, please contact [year8enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year8enquiries@theacademy.me)

Ms Dutson and the Year 8 Team



**Mr Hawley says...** We've seen the last of the summer Bank Holiday weekends, and so it's been back to normal this week. I have really enjoyed hearing what students have been up to on their bank holiday.

A big 'well done' to all the DofE students on Friday; getting the preparation is really important before the final assessment. I hope you will do better than I did...

I have launched the **Aspiration Award**.

This is a card that challenges students to complete three tasks to get a certificate and green card awards. I am really trying to give Year 9 the opportunity to boost their achievement points. Some form tutors have been encouraging students to take part but to no avail, so if you could help encourage students to participate that would be great. They just need to ask their form tutor for a card and we can provide. I have attached a picture of what one is and what they need to do.

**Aspiration Award - Gold**

Task	Completed and by who? Additional comments
100% ATTENDANCE FOR A WHOLE TERM! – get this checked by your form tutor.	
3 challenge completed – Ask your teacher what level task would stretch you and complete it to a high standard in ALL OF YOUR different lessons in ALL different subjects this completed by the teacher.	
One shout out from the Principal/Vice Principal! – A teacher has to be so impressed by your work or how you have met academy values that they email Mr. Hawley and let him know! Remember don't ask, don't get.	
Completion of the Gold Aspiration Award will result in 3 Green Rewards to go in the box and a lunch pass for the week. Good Luck!	

A big thank you to Miss Michiana for delivering the Coronation assembly. As a history teacher, I particularly enjoyed it. I hope students learnt a lot about this millenniums-old tradition.

Year 9s were held back after assembly on Tuesday and Miss Pykett discussed that we were displeased with many of them for encouraging others to take part in bad behaviour. We stressed the importance of looking out for one another, and to treating others, as they would like to be treated.

### **Osmington Bay PGL Trip**

We will be holding a meeting for the GCSE Geography students who are participating on this trip on **Monday 15 May** at break time in E-02-08. If your child has not already returned the PGL Parental Consent Form, please can they bring a completed copy to this meeting. The form was sent to parents via email last week. Please do contact Mrs Smyth if you have any questions: [asmith@theacademy.me](mailto:asmith@theacademy.me)

### **Vaccinations**

The School Immunisation Team will be visiting school on **Tuesday 27 June** to give Diptheria, Tetanus and Polio, and Meningococcal ACWY boosters to those students who have consent from parents. Mrs Ripley will also be talking to students about the immunisations and what to expect on the day in Assemblies this week.

The attached letter contains codes for letters in different languages to support parents with completing the forms required and gives information about the Year 9 immunisations.

### **Dates for your Diary**

**W/C Monday 12 June** National School Sports Week (including Sports Day)

**Friday 30 June** District Athletics at Stoke Mandeville Stadium

**February 2024** Austria Ski Trip

## **Year 9 Academy Values Awards**



**Chloe J** for having an excellent reputation as a kind, helpful and trustworthy student.



**Reggie B** has been given a shout out by Miss Leach for being consistently excellent in geography. This will certainly help towards his Aspiration award.



**Lily S** for working with adults to help her academic attainment.

## Weekly Form Competition

### Individual Achievement Points:

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

### Form Attendance (%):

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

### Honourable Mentions:

1. Jake C for trying his hardest in history
2. Ajitesh N for helping out Mr Gibson this week

Any enquiries, please contact [year9enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year9enquiries@theacademy.me)

Mr Hawley and the Year 9 Team



**Mr O'Leary says...** I hope you had an enjoyable weekend and with the students having had a four day week, the students had an assembly which was on the Coronation delivered by Mrs Michhiana. The year group have completed activities on Numeracy and Literacy and they finished the week with an assembly on careers and pathways in to different sectors.

### Geography Trips River Chess

All Year 10 GCSE Geography students are due to participate in their fieldtrip to the River Chess in June. A letter detailing the trip arrangements has been emailed to parents through Edulink this week. Students can look on their MS Team to see a copy of this letter and check which day their class is participating in the trip. Please do contact Mrs Smyth if you have any questions. [asmyth@theacademy.me](mailto:asmyth@theacademy.me)

### Osmington Bay PGL Trip

We will be holding a meeting for the students who are participating on this trip on **Monday 15 May** at break time in E-02-08. If your child has not already returned the PGL Parental Consent Form, please can they bring a completed copy to this meeting. The form was sent to parents via email last week. Please do contact Mrs Smyth if you have any questions. [asmyth@theacademy.me](mailto:asmyth@theacademy.me)



### Year 10 to 11 Transition evening

Year 10 parents have received a letter inviting them to the **Year 10 to Year 11 Transition Evening** at AVA on **Wednesday 24 May 2023**, from **6pm to 7pm**. The aim of the session is to give guidance to you and your child in planning their revision and using revision strategies in preparation for the upcoming summer mock exams, as well as to give an introduction to what to expect in Year 11. If you would like to attend, please complete the form via the MS Form [here](#).

### 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

#### Tutor time this week

<b>Tuesday</b>	Community Assembly
<b>Wednesday</b>	Literacy
<b>Thursday</b>	Numeracy
<b>Friday</b>	Careers



Please see the main body of the Parent Bulletin for more information about the Health for Teens service, which was announced to Year 10 during their assembly last week.

**Dates for you Diaries:**

**Wednesday 24 May** Careers Passport Day, Oxford Brookes Headington Campus

**Weekly Form Competition**

**Form Achievement Points:**

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

**Individual Achievement Points:**

1. Krystain N
2. Halima E-H
3. Hannah J

**Form Attendance (%):**

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

**Honourable Mentions:**

1. Nicholas B
2. Eleanor G
3. Yahya K

**Year 10 Academy Values Awards**

**respect**

Afser-Jehan A  
Patrycja M  
Summer U  
Gerrard Y  
Angel A  
Cherry R  
Riley B  
Janhavi K  
Araish A  
Harry N  
Yvonne C  
Zoe K  
Ruby Mc  
Theodore H  
Aaditya A  
Akisharra J

**aspiration**

Archie L  
Haleena P  
Maya P  
Cameron B  
Finley C  
Sophia D  
Ines D-D  
Jamini V  
Imogen J  
Lemuel M  
Jamie L  
Shayden A  
Leo C  
Lucy S  
Haroon Ur-R  
Kayla J

**resilience**

Harrison C  
Sana B  
Max C  
Musa K  
Lloyd L  
Viktoria R  
Alice K  
Eda H  
Marko G  
Sheza R  
Alex M  
Annabel H  
Abigail H  
Amel H  
Maya M  
Taylor F

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



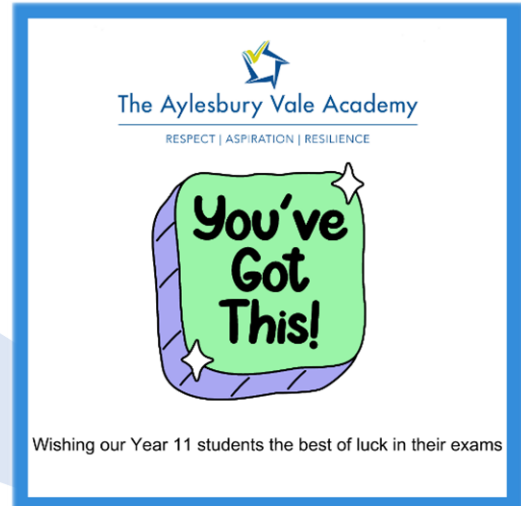
**Mrs Leach says...** We appreciate that our Year 11s are nearing the end of their time at AVA, however school uniform is still very important and always at the forefront of our daily routines. School shoes are still expected to be worn by Year 11. If their school shoes have broken or they've grown out of them, new ones do need to be purchased. Students will need to be in uniform for their exams this summer, and will need black shoes for job interviews, A levels, and special events in the near future.

A reminder the Summer exams start on **Monday 15 May**, and our

Leavers Assembly is on **Friday 26 May**. From **Monday 5 June** students will be expected in school for exams only. Uniform must be work for all exams.

We wanted to share some important information with you all regarding the exams:

- Students must attend all exams that are allocated to them on their individual candidate timetable.
- Misreading the timetable will not be accepted as a satisfactory explanation for your absence.
- If a student misses an exam due to illness, you must telephone the school.
- Mobile phones, headphones, watches, bags will be left in the main hall before students enter the exam hall. The main hall will be locked for the duration of the exam. Students can then collect their belongings from the main hall once they've finished the exam.
- If a device is found on a student in the exam hall and it is turned on, this will result in disqualification from entire subject award.
- If a device is found on a student in the hall exam and turned off, this will result in disqualification from that component of the subject award.



### Geography Revision during Half Term

Mrs Smyth will be running a revision session on **Friday 2 June** to help our Year 11 GCSE Geography students prepare for their Paper 2 examination on **Friday 9 June**. Students need to arrive at the front entrance of school at 10am. The session will finish at 12 noon. Please encourage your child to attend, we find these sessions can help motivate students and reduce anxiety about the upcoming exam.

### Year 11 Prom

Prom payment has now closed and I'm excited to say that we have 145 students signed up to attend the evening. Invites will be posted to students at the beginning of June.

### Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

Payments for Leavers' Hoodies have also now closed. We have more than 100 hoodies on order – the most we've ever had! Once they've been delivered to school, they will be handed out to students and can be worn in school until Year 11 go on study leave.

### Supporting your child through exams

Here is a list of websites and a book which are useful resources in supporting children and young people with anxiety, including [managing exam stress](#):

<a href="http://www.youngminds.org.uk">www.youngminds.org.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.mind.org.uk">www.mind.org.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.barnados.org.uk">www.barnados.org.uk</a>
<a href="http://www.andyresearchclinic.com">www.andyresearchclinic.com</a>	<a href="http://www.minded.org.uk">www.minded.org.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.anxietyuk.org.uk">www.anxietyuk.org.uk</a>

### Dates for you Diaries:

**Monday 15 May** Summer exams begin

# Year 11 Academy Values Awards

respect

Zoha O  
Tamara OS  
Kendra AM

aspiration

Ruby I  
Toby L  
Dylan B

resilience

Anthony W  
Hassan S  
Holly C

## Weekly Form Competition

### Form Achievement Points:

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

### Individual Achievement Points:

1. Dillon M
2. Aimee M
3. Tayla D

### Form Attendance (%):

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

### Honourable Mentions:

1. Kendra AM
2. Miguel A
3. Aishwarya A

Any enquiries, please contact [year11enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:year11enquiries@theacademy.me)

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team

## Mrs Sharma says...

It was a privilege to host the **Young Enterprise** Company of the Year final event at AVA on **Tuesday 9 May**. There were several teams from local schools present, including our Year 12, Business Studies students who gave an excellent presentation and did a great job in promoting their company. A special mention for **Christian, Devlin** and **Zayan** for the brilliant presentation!

Combining the aspects of Work Life with Community and Environment, the Year 12 **Inspiration Programme** Students visited Carey's Construction at the Graven Hill Development in Bicester. They



were met by the Regional Director for the Midlands, Tom Wright, along with two apprentices who shared their experiences on site. A tour of the self-build and custom build community at Graven Hill, Bicester, gave the apprentices more opportunity to share their knowledge in their respective fields.

How can we wrap up this week and not write about the **Coronation Celebrations** that took place last Friday! Our 6<sup>th</sup> formers, **Keira L, Emma E** and **Keiran S** made a massive contribution to the events. The most popular was the photo booth for the younger year groups. Thank you so much for all your hard work!

Any enquiries, please contact [post16enquiries@theacademy.me](mailto:post16enquiries@theacademy.me)

Mrs Sharma and the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Team

**Thank you for all your support**