



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 91

9th June 2023

Welcome...

The sunshine has finally arrived which must mean that we are well in to the Summer Term. This term, as you will see from the Bulletin, is full of trips, events and enrichment.

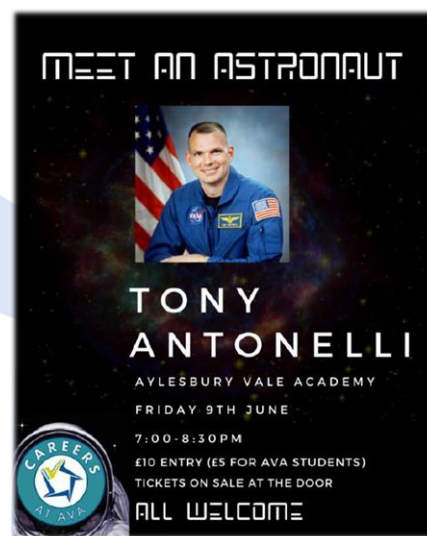
We are really looking forward to our Evening of Expression on **Tuesday 20 June** and by the time you read this some of you will have been in the main hall this evening to listen to a real live astronaut speak to our students.

We have several rewards opportunities, including trips and I know our students are very excited about these. Alongside that is the serious business of our curriculum. Our Year 11s finish their exams next week, and our Year 10s begin *their* mock exams in preparation for stepping up to Year 11 in September.

As we look ahead, you will see that we finish at 12.25pm on **Thursday 20 July**. We will also be sharing our new Behaviour Policy for September with parents and carers in advance of the new academic year and will welcome your feedback.

In the meantime enjoy the sunshine and thunderstorms this weekend.

Gavin Gibson
Academy Principal



Contacting the School:

Year 7: year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 8: year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 9: year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 10: year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 11: year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Post 16: post16@theacademy.me

Key Links:

[Secondary website](#)

[Parents' evenings](#)

[EduLink One](#)

[Trips/Lunch money](#)



Parent Bulletin Feedback

We're always looking at ways to improve how we communicate to parents, and you could win a £20 Amazon voucher for completing the form [here](#) with your views on this Parent Bulletin.





Summer Holiday finish time

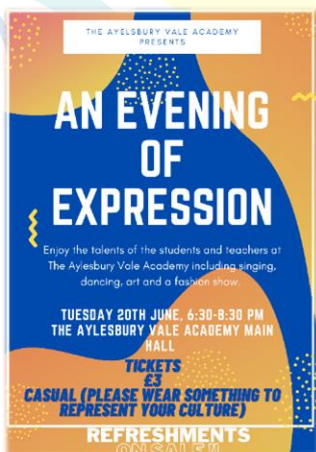
As we approach the Summer Holidays, please be aware that school will finish at **12.25pm** on **Thursday 20 July**. Children who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to collect a takeaway packed lunch as they leave site.

AVA'bury Festival 2023

With just three weeks to go until the inaugural AVA'Bury Festival, tickets are continuing to sell fast. You can secure yours [here](#) 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



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 show case 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 [here](#) for only £3 and be a part of something truly special.

History

This week's **History Hero** is **Jack A** in Year 8. **Jack** is exceeding his target grade, always has great answers in class, and is keen and eager to learn. He seems to enjoy World War II, and Mr Ramsbottom is particularly impressed with his last assessment on the causes of the conflict. Keep up the great work **Jack!**



Year 7 trip to the Black Country Living Museum

For those students who were affected by Thursday 18 May's cancellation of the above trip, we have rescheduled for **Wednesday 28 June**. All those involved have received letters with more details and new permission slips, which must be completed because of the change of date and timings. If medical circumstances have changed, please inform Mrs Michhiana. There will be no extra cost for this trip. Please return permission letters to Mrs Michhiana by **Monday 19 June**.

GCSE History tuition

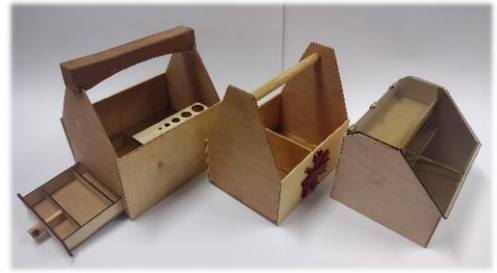
We are offering extra support with GCSE History studies every Friday after school. There is no need to book, just turn up. This may be particularly beneficial for Year 10 as they prepare for their mock exams.

Year 10 History Trip to Hampton Court Palace - Wednesday 21 June

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we regret to inform you that the above trip has been postponed. We hope to reschedule this trip and will update parents as soon as possible.

Design & Technology

The Design & Technology department would like to congratulate students for their continued display of the Academy values during lessons. Here is a small selection from the fantastic practical outcomes made in Engineering by Year 9's garden trowels, and Year 10's toolboxes. A special 'thank you' to **Robert E** and **Aaditya A** in Year 10 for their contributions during work experience with us.



Physical Education

As part of national school sports week, students will be taking in AVA's Race for Life during their PE lessons. Students will be attempting to complete as many laps of the school field as possible. There will be a KS3 & 4 penalty shoot-out and bake sale to help raise funds. Please encourage students to wear pink for their 1st PE lesson of the week, and bring in any donations for Cancer Research!

Another PB for Ibukun F

Last weekend was another successful one for Ibukun F in Year 9. Competing at the YDL Athletics Competition in Kingston, Ibukun ran yet another PB of 11.6 seconds in the 100m, propelling him in to the Top 20 runners in the UK in his age group. Ibukun also completed his first 300m sprint in just 39.6 seconds, entering the UK Top 50 in the process.

Nicotine pouches

Nicotine pouches, also called 'modern oral nicotine products', are white pouches that contain nicotine - among other ingredients.

Despite being a nicotine product, it is not against the law for under-18s to purchase these products. **However, they can lead to nicotine addiction, mood disorders and the lowering of impulse control.**

Pouches are placed between the users' upper lip and gum, and are then disposed of once the flavour and nicotine has been absorbed.

These pouches are banned at AVA, and we would strongly advise that children U18 are not allowed to use them.



Mrs Weedon says... We welcomed back our year 7s for their last term as Year 7! The time has flown by, and they have worked so hard this year. It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we hope that the positive attitudes continue.

From next week, two exciting new clubs will be open to Year 7: Martial Arts in A-01-07, 3pm - 4pm every Wednesday with ZKS Martial Arts, and Rugby will be 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 coach, and will provide a fantastic opportunity for Year 7 to try a new activity.

Students must 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.



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 careers booklet, looking at the skills they want to improve for future job prospects.

Our community assembly this week was delivered by Mr Cort, who discussed the story of Malala Yousafzai and how she over came challenges. She is educational activities and survived an assassination by the Taliban. She won the Nobel Peace prize in 2014 at the age of 17 and was the young person to receive the award. Her story shows that she was very resilient and that is she working hard to empower young women in education. We hope are students can take something from her story which will help them overcome some of the challenges they may face.



Year 7 Academy Values Awards

respect

Mollie B
 Ruby C
 Calleigh C
 Lucy U
 Eoin C
 Aleen A
 Jayden C
 Conor M
 Aleen A
 Humna Q
 Freya B
 Effie D
 Ava G

aspiration

Lorenzo C
 Amir C
 Tom E
 Elizabeth N
 Maddie M
 Ashlee B
 Nica W
 Laila M
 Aeshah M
 Imogen T
 Roxanne B
 Elisha M
 Ingrid CS

resilience

Jake C
 Rylee P
 Patricia DS
 Kelise B
 Kian B
 Matei R
 Sharon G
 Elissa I
 Abigael G
 Sofija B
 Aleesha K
 Victoria N
 Chloe D

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Form Attendance (%):

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

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Michael B
2. Toby P
3. Callum W

Honourable Mentions:

All the **Year 7 Litter Pickers** – well done for all your hard work!

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Weedon and the Year 7 Team



Mr Wakefield says... It's been a brilliant first week back after a well needed half-term.

The weather is now getting warmer and the days that little bit longer, making sure our Year 8s stay hydrated throughout the day. It's so important to allow us focus to be maintained throughout a very long and tiring day.

I want to say a huge thank you to our Year 8 litter pickers who day in, day out help make our community look as best as possible. It is not an easy job, and they work really hard picking up countless amounts of rubbish from the day to

keep our environment clean, safe and tidy.

Please ensure students are coming equip with the correct uniform, correct PE kit and correct equipment for their day at school.

There are 2 new clubs being opened to Year 8s next week, Martial Arts and Rugby, run by 2 external coaches. These are both excellent opportunities for our students.

We had a fantastic assembly this week from Mr Cort who delivered a really inspiring and thought-provoking assembly based on Overcoming Challenges, focusing on the Inspirational Journey of Malala Yousafzai.

Thank you for your patience with the GCSE Options. Letters confirming choices will be sent out early next week.

Dates for you Diaries:

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

Wednesday 14 June Sports Day

Saturday 24 June AVA'bury Festival

Friday 30 June District Athletics, Stoke Mandeville Stadium

**We were
scared,
but our fear
was not as
strong as our
courage.**



Year 8 Academy Values Awards

respect

Zahra P
Mariia K
Jamil A
Elizabeth B

aspiration

Travis S
Dillon W
Florence S
Louis R

resilience

Cassie W
AJ M
Jasmine J
Niamh H

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Crow H
2. Oliver S, Noor J & Theo H
3. Teshnavi A, Zahra P, Millie M, Lily P, Isabella P & Elliot P

Form Attendance (%):

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

Any enquiries, please contact year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr Wakefield and the Year 8 Team



Mr Hawley says... This week has been great. Students are feeling the benefit of the better weather and the Year 9s are now in the main hall for lunch. This will help build in the realisation that they are now upper school and all that this entails.

Massive 'well dones' to **Zak M**, **Charlie S** and **Macy C** who have achieved the Bronze Aspiration



award! Congratulations - I hope you made the best of the free lunch pass!

If you would like your child to partake, just send me an email I can set them up with what they need.

Transition to Year 10

As part of the transition process, Year 9 are going to have mocks for core subjects on the following **provisional** dates:

- **Maths - Monday 3 July, P1 & 2**
- **Science - Tuesday 4 July, P1 & 2**
- **English - Wednesday 5 July P1 & 2**

Other exams will take place in classes over the end of June and beginning of July – these dates will be shared soon. History will have an exam at a later date, with the location still to be confirmed. Because Art is coursework-based, there won't be a mock exam.

Here are two of our current year 11's top tips for revision: [flash cards](#) and [mind maps](#).

There are some issues arising around the use of mobile phones and creating group chats on various apps including snapchat. Drama then arises on these apps which gets brought into school and can cause issues. If parents could remain vigilant to this, I would be very grateful. Thank you to the parents who bring it to my attention. It helps me get a full picture of the dynamic in the year group.

The Tutor programme has changed slightly in the last term to assist with Year 9 into Year 10 transition. The careers module has come to an end and instead they will be going through 'how to revise'. This will look at what makes effective revision and how to cope with stress.

Dates for you Diaries:

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

Wednesday 14 June Sports Day

Saturday 24 June AVA'bury Festival

Friday 30 June District Athletics, Stoke Mandeville Stadium

Year 9 Academy Values Awards



Yustyna K – For being kind and polite in all scenarios and taking the time to say hello to members of staff.



James H – James is involved in the D of E as well as the World challenge and manages to juggle both commitments. Extremely impressed.



Zak M – Zak has seen a great improvement across all his lessons in comparison to the beginning of last term and the pinnacle of this was winning the Bronze aspiration award. Congratulations.

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. Talia R
2. Ana Q

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr Hawley and the Year 9 Team



Mr O'Leary says... I hope everyone had a restful half term break and that the year group have settled back into academy life. Our students have a busy half term leading up to the summer break to help with their transition from Year 10 to Year 11, this will involve plenty of revision with their mock exams beginning at the end of June.

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.

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.



Tutor time this week	
Monday	Year 10 Welcome Back
Tuesday	Numeracy
Wednesday	Information for Sports Week
Thursday	Community Assembly
Friday	AD Assembly - Careers

Dates for you Diaries:

Thursday 22 June Mock examinations begin

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Maddoch O'D
2. Theodore H
3. Manal S

Form Attendance (%):

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

Honourable Mentions:

1. Nicholas B
2. Summer U
3. Hannah S

Year 10 Academy Values Awards

respect

Afser-Jehan A
Flynn S
Denisa Mandela-O
Angel A
Abigail S
Araish A
Ayesha A
Elijah P
Alfie C

aspiration

Ben B
Ivo M
Oscar B
Isabella H
Alice K
Archie Umpleby T
Lauren B
Melissza J
Moosa K

resilience

Summer C
Tanatswa D
Richie C
Patryk S
Rahima El H
Nicolas T
Harry D
Isabella B
Maciej F

Any enquiries, please contact year10enquiries@theacademy.me
Mr O'Leary and the Year 10 Team



Mrs Leach says... We're well and truly in the thick of the exam season, and I am proud to say that the students have taken the exams in their stride so far. I'm sure you will join me in saying how proud we are of them!

In the last week before half-term we celebrated the students' time at AVA. Although for some their time at secondary school hasn't been an entirely smooth run, they all deserved to have a place at the leavers assembly and did everyone proud.

We all enjoyed the social on the field. Lots of music, ice cream, leavers hoodies and of course smiles and laughter was had. On the Friday we had the Leaver's Assembly, the students had really gone to town with their "Tik Tok Leavers Shirts". We hope all the students have enjoyed their celebrations and we wish them all a restful half term.

Our resident kick-boxing champion **Joshua A-B** has qualified to represent Great Britain on behalf of World Association of Kickboxing Organisation (WAKO) in Turkey this August, and has launched a [GoFundMe](#) to raise the £3,000 he needs to cover his travel, equipment and accommodation costs.



Joshua has continued to compete at the highest level despite studying for his GCSEs, and he has won a host of titles.

If you are able to donate even a small amount towards his [GoFundMe](#), he hopes to add another to his rapidly growing collection.

For all exams they must wear their school uniform and be on time.

Exam expectations:

- 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.
- Device found on a student in the exam hall and turned ON: disqualification from entire subject award.
- Device found on a student in the hall exam and turned OFF: disqualification from that component.

Prom Invitations

Invites to prim will be sent out this week.

Uniform Donations

If you would like to donate AVA ties and blazers after exams have finished, there will be a collection box available on **Friday 16 June** after the Science exam.

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](#):

www.youngminds.org.uk	www.mind.org.uk	www.barnados.org.uk
www.andyresearchclinic.com	www.minded.org.uk	www.anxietyuk.org.uk

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 24 August GCSE Results day

Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team

Thank you for all your support