



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN 22

1st March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,



Today is St David's day. We have watched a virtual assembly in school about our Saints Day's. In line with our British Values focus all staff attended a training session on Tuesday led by Ms Pickett who oversees this area for us.

Yesterday was 'stranger danger' day and as always, we discussed this in school with the children. We handle these topics with age-appropriate sensitivity and ensure that the children are able to discuss any worries that they may have.

Thank you to the parents who attended the council meeting for us to represent the school and discuss the issues around parking. We have had more incidents this week and the dangers continue to be a very real concern for us. We would encourage everyone to report any dangerous parking - including parking on the yellow lines - on Fix my Street.

[FixMyStreet \(buckinghamshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fixmystreet)

Well done to the Eagles on a successful first swimming session. We know that it can be a worry for some children but all were super brave and did really well. We know how important swimming is and vital for safety as the children go through life.

Thank you to all the parents who have contacted us about the ongoing issues around school trips and visits. We are looking at options and how we can manage these events going forward. We are in a really tricky situation as parents have asked to be reminded and updated on the status of the monies collected but we feel that we are continually asking for money which then adds pressure to families.

We don't feel that we have a happy medium at present. I am attending a Headteachers conference next week and have raised this as a discussion point to see what other schools are doing.

I would welcome the opportunity for all parents to let us know their thoughts and ideas and would like to invite you into the school for an informal chat to discuss possible ways forward and the restrictions we have around these issues.

The meeting will be Monday 11th March 2024 at 4.30pm.

We have a group of Secondary pupils who are trying to raise funds for World Challenge. They are hoping to hold a small sale after school on Friday 8th March in the 'front' of the hall. This will be cash only and all items will be pocket money prices (no more than £2).

On Wednesday, Year 5 & 6 were very lucky to have Matt from Camouflaged Learning in to look at how they are using STEM all the time. Through a range of games and activities, he encouraged the children to think outside the box and wanted them to take away a very clear message - You know more than you think you know and can do more than you think you can.

Family Support Coffee Morning

Our schools family support Link worker will be coming in on Monday 4th March at 09:00am. She will be here along with the pastoral team for a coffee and a chat in the school community suite-



We will be talking about-

- Effective parenting tips and strategies.
- Local events in the family centres.
- With a chance for parents to talk and discuss their own concerns and ask for help and advice.

If you are interested in attending, please speak with Mrs Khan on the gate or drop by on Monday 4th March.

We look forward to seeing you there

Westend in School

We are so pleased that our Westend in School event is able to go ahead. A huge thank you to all those parents that have contributed towards the event.

World Book Day - Friday 8th March 2024

In the past, World Book Day has always been an occasion to dress up! This year, we are changing the rules slightly by offering three different options for children. Children can either:

1. Dress up as a character from Jack and the Beanstalk (our focus story for the week)
2. Dress up in a book costume of their choice
3. Wear their own clothes without needing to dress up as a character (appropriate for school).

We understand that dress-up days can become expensive, so the choice is yours!

Advanced Notice - Scholastic Book Fair – Saturday 23rd March 2024

Thank you to everyone who attended our first Scholastic Book Fair for this academic year back in November. As always, your support at these fairs earn the school Scholastic rewards which allows us to further enhance the literary provision throughout the Primary Phase.

Our next book fair is on Saturday 23rd March 2024. It will run from 9:30am until 12:30pm. There will also be a uniform sale for voluntary contributions on the day. Please come along grab some second-hand uniform and a book.

Preschool

We are currently looking at our applications for Preschool places for September 2024. If you haven't already applied, please do so via the form on our website.

SEN

If you have any initial concerns regarding your child, please complete the following form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/CD1CHTscFR>

Reflection

During half term, whilst many of us were celebrating Valentine's Day, Christians around the world began the season of Lent, which began on 14th February also known as Ash Wednesday.

Lent lasts for 40 days. It starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on Maundy Thursday just before the Easter weekend. However, Lent is actually 46 days, as the six Sundays are excluded.

Each Sunday during the Season of Lent many Christian churches decorate a Lenten Cross. This is a simple wooden cross decorated with a violet stole (the church colour of the season). Each week articles are placed on or by the cross, symbolising the events of Christ's last days before his crucifixion. Each item is a reminder of the events of the Easter story.



- A palm leaf is a reminder of Jesus entry into Jerusalem when the crowds cheered him as the Messiah.
- A moneybag and coins represent the thirty pieces of silver paid to Judas Iscariot for betraying Jesus.
- A water bowl and towel recall that before the Passover meal Jesus washed his disciples' feet. A humble action to demonstrate his teaching that he came to serve, not to be served.
- Bread and wine are a symbol of his actions during this last meal, when he took bread, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying 'this is my body broken for you' and passed round a cup of wine, saying 'this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you'.
- After his arrest and condemnation Jesus was beaten, scourged and humiliated; so nails and crown of thorns remind us of these things.
- Finally on Easter Day the cross is decorated with flowers, signifying new life, and the resurrection.

As we end the week, we invite our community to join us in a prayer for Lent...

God, you guide and direct us on our journey through life.

Be with us as we make our Lenten journey of faith and love.

Help us to grow closer to you during this special holy season.

Help us to do your will each day during Lent.

Renew our hearts and our lives that we may live as your people.

Help us to reach out to others and to share your love with all.

Amen

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes.

Mrs C Baughan

If you have any initial concerns regarding your child, please complete the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/CD1CHTscFR>



For all of our latest news, to keep up to speed with events, for sharing 'wow' moments, and to stay 'in the loop,' follow us on social media. We have 3 platforms- Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/theaylesburyvaleacademyprimary>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/avaprimary?s=09>



Instagram: <https://instagram.com/avaprimary?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

Any questions, please contact avaprimary@theacademy.me FAO: Mrs Clark

THE RARE MARE PHOTOBOOTH INVITES YOU TO

MOTHERS DAY MARE

A MOTHERS DAY EXTRAUAGANZA

FREE EVENT!

Come have a cheeky mare with your mum this mothers day at our photobooth. You will get 2 free photo strips per session. Lots of props included!!

Donations would be welcome. Proceeds would be donated to Cancer Research UK

LOCATION

10AM-1PM
10TH MARCH 2024

ROMAN PARK HALL
SIR HENRY LEE CRES
AYLESBURY
HP18 0YT

BOOK WITH US

HIRE THE RARE MARE PHOTOBOOTH TO BRING SOME UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES TO YOUR:

- WEDDING
- PARTY
- CORPORATE EVENT
- CELEBRATION



FOR MORE INFORMATION ☎ 07864986292  THE RARE MARE PHOTOBOOTH [THERAREMAREPHOTBOOTH.CO.UK](https://www.theraremarephotobooth.co.uk)