



# The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

## PARENT BULLETIN 9

### 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to return to school this week and to see all of the children, staff and families. On a personal note I would like to say thank you for all the well wishes.

Well done to Falcons for a successful first swimming lesson. For some children it was their first experience of swimming and they did brilliantly. As always we can never plan for the road works and traffic around Aylesbury and we will endeavour to get back as close to the 'normal' time as possible. Please remember that parking on the yellow lines out the front of the school is illegal and causes not only dangerous situations but also long delays for our coaches.

We also have parents parking over the crossing that children use near the corner of the junction outside the school this makes it extremely difficult and dangerous for our children and other families to cross the road, please do not park there.

We have had contact this week from our local police office requesting sensible, safe and legal parking. He advised us to inform our parents to contact the council via the 'fix my street' section on the website of any parking concerns.

<https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>

On Tuesday we welcomed lots of you into the school for our Open Classroom event. The feedback was brilliant and it is always so nice to see how proud the children are of their work. Thank you to the staff and children for making this event so special for our families.

The team from the church on Berryfields put on a lovely event of light on Tuesday. The arts, crafts and hot chocolate went down a 'treat'. Thank you.

We have started planning for our Christmas celebrations (it's only 7 weeks away!) and will be sending information out about the different events. As always, the choir will be super busy and singing across the county.

As we start swimming lesson with Year 4 we are asking for any old/ outgrown swimming costumes and towels that can be donated to the school. Please bring any donated swimming costumes/ shorts/ towels to the school office.

Today we held our regular fire drill practice in school. As always, the children were impeccable in their conduct. This is a vital part of our health and safety process and our children understand that we do this to keep them safe.

Just a reminder that if someone different is picking up after club or at the end of the day this needs to be confirmed by a message to the office if that adult is not already on the permission to collect form, this also includes children who normally walk home on their own and are being picked up by someone else instead.

### Teacher training

Please find attached a flyer regarding Teacher training opportunities.

### Applications for primary school places

The portal for Reception applications for Sept 2024 is now open. All our Reception places are managed by Buckinghamshire Council and you will need to apply directly to them via their portal please find the link below. Please note that our Preschool children **do not** automatically get a place in Reception, we are not a feeder Preschool.

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/submit-your-school-preferences/>

### School photos

It is school individual and sibling photos next Friday (10<sup>th</sup> November). The link for the sibling photo requests is now closed. All children are to wear full school uniform with a jumper or cardigan, there will be **no PE** that day.

### Remembrance

We will be taking part in our annual Remembrance service on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. As always children who are members of groups (scouts, cubs, brownies, St John's ambulance, cadets etc) are invited to wear their uniforms if they want to. Due to this being the same day as our individual and sibling photos we are asking that children bring their uniforms into school in a named bag to change into once the photos are taken.

### Poppies

Poppies and remembrance items have been on sale this week and will be on sale next week until we are sold out or will finish on Friday whichever comes first. We are so proud each year how well this charity is supported.

### Speech link

As a school we use Language link (cross phase). Here is a link for parents to support with these needs at home.

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents>



### Anti-Bullying Week – WC 13/11/2023

Anti-Bullying Week takes place between Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. The theme this year is *MAKE A NOISE! about bullying.*

It is important to remember that there is a difference between children being unkind and children bullying. Bullying is categorised as the following:

- Repetitive
- Intentional
- Hurtful
- Imbalance of power



Throughout the week, our whole school assembly and PSHE lessons will explore bullying – what it is, how we can MAKE A NOISE about it when it happens, and the difference between banter and bullying.

### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Odd Socks Day!**

To celebrate the fact that we are all unique, we ask that children and grown-ups wear odd socks to school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. The day sends an important message to our pupils that they should be allowed to be themselves, free from bullying, and it helps us to launch our Anti-Bullying Week activities in a fun and positive way.



### **Anti-Bullying Week Competitions – Deadline - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November:**

We are running TWO competitions as part of our Anti-Bullying Week activities – there will be prizes available for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in each category:

**Competition 1: Make a Noise! Poster** – We would like you to design a poster showing how the AVA can MAKE A NOISE about bullying.

**Competition 2: Make a Noise! Poem** – We would like to invite you to write a poem about how the AVA can MAKE A NOISE about bullying.

Consider the following in your poster or poem:

- Knowing the difference between being unkind and bullying
- Speaking to your trusted adult if you are experiencing bullying
- Speak up and stand up if you see bullying happening
- Support the person experiencing bullying

### **Autumn 1 Attendance**

Our attendance for Autumn 1 was 96.2%. This is a fantastic achievement, and above the national average for last half term. Thank you to everyone for your continued support. Children attending school regularly has such a positive impact on their future; it means gaps in learning are less likely to develop, social relationships remain strong and children are able to take full advantage of the many opportunities presented to them.

### **Scholastic Book Fair – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

When: 9:30am-12:30pm  
Where: Primary Main Hall

Our first Scholastic Book Fair of the year is here, just in time for Christmas! Last year, your support with our book fairs meant we raised enough money to re-stock all our classrooms with new dictionaries and thesauruses. This was such an achievement and has provided a new and updated vital learning resource for our children.



We hope you are able to attend our first book fair of the academic year. We are now raising money to re-stock our Library with more diverse, engaging and modern texts. This year, to make it easier, we will be using a card reader.

**We are not able to accept cash.**  
We hope to see many of you there!

## YDP Football

The YDP football club registration for **this term** is open for bookings. They are running goalkeeping on a Tuesday, Football club for years 1,2,3 football on a Wednesday and years 4,5,6 on a Thursday <https://www.ydpoxford.co.uk/copy-of-book-a-course>

## SEN

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

## Dates

9<sup>th</sup> November – Phonics Workshop 5-6pm

10<sup>th</sup> November – School Photos

18th November 2023 – Scholastic Book Fair 9.30-12.30

23rd March 2024 – Scholastic Book Fair 9.30-12.30

22nd June 2024 – Scholastic Book Fair 9.30-12.30

## Reflection

This week students from both Primary & Secondary phases have welcomed Rev. Lane to lead assemblies on 'All Saints Day' also known as 'All Hallows Day' which is celebrated on 1st November. Most of us realised we are more familiar with 'All Hallows Evening' which we learned that when abbreviated becomes... 'Halloween'. We learned that as the darkness of winter approaches we can light up our community with love, forgiveness and by spreading God's grace.

To help us on this journey we were pleased to welcome the Church on Berryfields outside the Primary Phase for a 'Light Up the Streets' event on Monday evening. It was lovely to see so many enjoying hot chocolate and making lanterns to light up the streets of Berryfields.

As we end the week, we invite you to join with us in a prayer for strength...



*Loving God,  
In darkness and in light,  
in trouble and in joy, help us,  
to trust your love, to serve your purpose,  
and to praise your name.  
Amen.*

Have a lovely firework weekend.

Best wishes.

**Mrs C Baughan**

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/avaprimaries=09>



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

Any questions, please contact [avaprimaries@theacademy.me](mailto:avaprimaries@theacademy.me) FAO: Mrs Clark