

## PARENT BULLETIN 28

### 28 March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

WOW it's been a busy week and I think everyone is ready for the weekend. We had so many activities going on and more to come so please keep an eye on your emails for the dates and deadlines.

Parking is becoming more and more difficult and dangerous and I feel like a broken record when we have to keep raising issues. Please can we ask parents and carers to not park on the yellow lines or mount the kerbs opposite the school to park. We also have parents parking across the entrance to the car park which stops our staff being able to exit and enter the car park when they have been off site or dropping their own families off. We have lots of requests for an assembly or support on road safety for the children but this is extremely conflicting when we have such parking and road safety issues within the community. Not only is the parking a danger to the children it will also prohibit any emergency vehicle being able to get to the school.

Year 5 and 6 were very lucky this week to have a visit from the author Rhian Tracey who talked about her books which are set during World War II. Rhian is extremely knowledgeable about amazing things like how pigeons were used during the war and what happened to all the art in London.

Rhian's first book is a very exciting adventure book set in Bletchley Park. As part of Year 6's World War II topic, the children are hoping to visit the park and learn more about codebreaking.

This week, our Preschool and Reception children had an unforgettable experience with a fantastic visit from Trainmaster! With endless powered trains, cars, and ride-ons, the excitement was high, but the children impressed us all with their respect and resilience. Ricky from Trainmaster praised them as a fantastic group, highlighting their ability to share and take turns beautifully. Well done to all the children for making it such a wonderful event!



#### Year 1 Farm Trip

Just a reminder to the Year 1 Parents to please complete the permission and health form in the letter that went home. Without this your child will not be able to go on the trip and will have to remain in class. The form deadline closes on **Monday 31 March at 9am**.

Thank you to those parents that have already completed it, you do not need to do this again.

#### Enrichment Clubs

**There are no enrichment clubs next week.**

The summer enrichment clubs will be out next week, there will be a separate email about those.

## Year 6 Homework

Why is homework important?

Homework gives your child the opportunity to reflect and think about the learning that has taken place in school and to practise applying their new found knowledge and skills to other situations and problems. Homework can also be used to help your child prepare for up and coming lessons; giving them the opportunity to research and find out about new topics, that they will be studying in greater detail during their lessons.

- It improves your child's thinking and memory
- It helps your child develop positive study skills and habits that will serve him or her well throughout life
- Homework encourages your child to use time wisely
- It teaches your child to work independently
- Homework teaches your child to take responsibility for his or her work
- It allows your child to review and practice what has been covered in class
- Homework helps your child learn to use resources, such as libraries, reference materials, and computer Web sites to find information
- It encourages your child to explore subjects more fully than classroom time permits
- It allows your child to extend learning by applying skills to new situations
- It helps your child integrate learning by applying many different skills to a single task, such as book reports or science projects
- Homework helps parents learn more about what your child is learning in school
- It allows parents to communicate about what he or she is learning and encourage them to spark your child's enthusiasm

In Year 6, homework is given out on Friday and should be returned on Tuesday. From the Summer term, if a Year 6 child forgets to bring their homework in on Tuesday, they will be completing their work during a break time. It is vitally important that children are organised and complete work to a high standard. In Year 6, we have one piece of homework linked to our Science or Topic and either a Maths or English task. In Secondary, children may have many pieces to complete over the week.

If your child needs any help or support, they are able to discuss homework with either Mrs Stewart or Mr Jackson.

## Neurodiversity Awareness

Primary will be looking at Autism awareness month in April but last week students in the Secondary phase had an assembly on Neurodiversity awareness week.

A video was shared which had a key message in it "Remember, just because a Playstation can't read an Xbox game, it doesn't mean it's broken" and this has been overheard in discussions with our students.

Please watch this video and enlighten yourself on how amazing things can happen:

- <https://youtu.be/Ezv85LMFx2E?si=1omfofVoHQEwShUI>

## Dates to remember

- 31 March - Spring Concert 4-5pm - Please look at your emails if your child is involved and fill in form for tickets.
- 1 April - iRock Concert - iRock should have sent confirmation on timings, please check your iRock account.
- 1 April – Year 4 parents reminder - Parents can come and see their topic work 3:30pm - 4:15pm
- 1 April – Year 6 WOW Day.
- 3 April – Year 5 Sports Festival.
- 4 April – Year 4 Bridge Building Day.
- **4 April – END OF TERM – Normal collection times.**
- **22 April – RETURN TO SCHOOL**
- 25 April - Year 3 WOW Day – Egyptians.

- 28 April, 30 April & 1 May - Year 1 Farm trip.
- 3 June – Year 6 Bletchley Park – payment deadline 4 April.
- 26 June – Year 3 Theatre Trip.

### Free School Meals

The Government plans to phase out **Transitional Protection** for Free School Meals from **1st April 2025**. However, children who become eligible before **31 March 2025** will have their eligibility protected until the end of their current educational phase. To ensure your child does not miss out, we strongly encourage you to **apply for Free School Meals before 31 March** if you haven't already.

Please submit your application as soon as possible via the link below:

[\[Free School Meals Application Form\]](#)

### Year 5 and 6 Sports Festivals

Please see below the information, dates, and times for the upcoming Year 5 and 6 Sports Festivals. Students will be representing The Aylesbury Vale Academy in a Hockey and Football sports festivals.

On the day students will be participating in a hockey/football festival, children will be participating with a local school in multiple hockey/football games. This sports festival includes all the year group. Students will need their PE kit.

As this festival is taking place during the school day, unfortunately parents won't be able to attend. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr O'Leary.

### Year 5 Sports Festival – Thursday 3rd April - Hockey

Location - Aylesbury Vale Academy – Secondary Astroturf

Time - 1:30 – 3:00

### PTA

AVA PTA PRESENTS:

Cost: £1 per child

**Bend the rules for APRIL'S**

Date: 4th April

**Rules you can break:**

- Wear school uniform
- No crazy hair
- Plain black socks only
- No trainers
- No tattoos
- No football kits

Have a 'cracking' time at our chocolate tombola after school 🍫

On the 4th of April we will be supporting our new PTA in a 'bend the rules for April fools' day as well as an Easter tombola after school.

### Reflection

This week we invite our community to join us in a Mother's Day prayer for all types of mothers.



*Loving God,*

*We pray for all types of mothers today, all those who raise children as their own, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, cousins and all who have taken on the role of mother for children across the world.*

*We know that family circumstances and dynamics may be different, but we ask that your love help us despite all the challenges we may face.*

*Be with those who are grieving or who are sad because they are far apart from those they love.*

*This Mother's Day we pray that love would be the common thread in all families and your love might be present in every home.*

*Amen.*

**Have lovely sunny weekend.**

Best wishes,  
**Mrs C Baughan**

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORT**

**SEND Support Phone Line - 01296 382135**

We are open every day between 10am and 4pm and until 6pm on Tuesdays. The line is for parents, professionals and anyone with enquiries about SEND in Buckinghamshire.

Please note that the support line is open between 10am and 2pm during school holidays and is closed on Bank Holidays.

**Primary SEND concerns**

[https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9\\_VtsKSZm5ilcidJig5HlgRJQUZUMEVCUk1PMUZXRtg1UIIUVVBaSFNYUFICMi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cA359AD1B-53A8-5F47-9B1A-80EC4AFA2E4C](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9_VtsKSZm5ilcidJig5HlgRJQUZUMEVCUk1PMUZXRtg1UIIUVVBaSFNYUFICMi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cA359AD1B-53A8-5F47-9B1A-80EC4AFA2E4C)

**Free School Meals**

Please find the link below: <https://www.theacademy.me/page/?title=SCHOOL+MEALS&pid=166>

We also have a dedicated FSM inbox - [freeschoolmeals@theacademy.me](mailto:freeschoolmeals@theacademy.me) - where parents can submit FSM forms if you prefer to complete the paper version instead of the online form.