



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

UKST2 Phase Newsletter January 2025

Welcome to the Spring term!

Happy New Year! I hope that you have had a very enjoyable Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year ahead. The children have made an impressive start to the term, immediately getting motivated and focused in their work.

All of the children have been looking very smart in their correct uniform. During this very wet and muddy time of year, please could you ensure your child is wearing a coat. Please could you also ensure that everything which your child brings into school includes their name, this means that we are able to return lost belongings quickly to their owner.

Curriculum

This term, in Topic, Year 5 will be learning all about 'Earth and Beyond' and in Science Year 5 will be finding out about Space.

Year 6, this term, will be exploring children's rights for their topic and Light in Science. You can find an overview of each topic in the primary curriculum area on the school website.

School Equipment

Children are allowed to bring in their own pencil cases – these need to contain a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and sharpener. Any additional equipment will be provided by the class teachers. If your child brings a mobile phone into school, the phone **must** be left in the office.

Homework

Homework is set weekly and is linked to our topic and science. Children will need to produce 1 piece of homework a week which they choose from a grid. Children have the opportunity to gain achievement points for the homework they produce.

Thank you to all parents who have encouraged their child to complete all of their homework and hand it in on time. Children who have completed homework to a high standard last term have really benefited from the extension and consolidation it provides. If you need any help or questions about homework, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Children need to continue to read and, if they do not know them, practise their times tables weekly.

Times Tables Practice

We will be working with children on their multiplication tables throughout the year. The expectation is that all children should know their tables off by heart by the end of Year 4. Multiplication tables are the

A Church of England Academy

Paradise Orchard • Berryfields • Aylesbury • Buckinghamshire • HP18 0WS

01296 428551(Secondary) • 01296 674263 (Primary) • enquiries@theacademy.me • www.theacademy.me

Aylesbury Vale Academy, Company Limited by Guarantee Company Registered in England and Wales No 06745367 Registered Office: Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX5 1GF



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England

DIocese OF OXFORD



ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

School & College Member



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

foundations for many maths topics, and it is essential to have rapid recall of multiplication tables to help progress through topics.

If your child does not know their times table off by heart, they will now be given a weekly multiplication homework. I cannot stress the importance of practising multiplication tables for around 5 – 10 minutes a day.

Playing games on the computer, tablet or phone is another way to help memorise the tables. Top marks has many games – hit the button is one of my favourites.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>.

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/>

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/tables.html>

www.mathszone.co.uk

Reading Expectations

Children are expected to read a minimum of 4 days every week, for at least 10 minutes. With older children, we know it is difficult to get them to read aloud. Although it is very useful to hear children read aloud, in Years 5 and 6 it is not mandatory. Children do need to continue to read but it can be on their own. Although, please have a chat with your child about books they are reading either at home or school to help encourage them to continue to read. Children can also sign their own records three times a week with an adult signing the reading record once a week.

Spellings

Spelling patterns and rules will be taught over the week and will culminate with an unseen test at the end of the week. Please encourage your child to talk about the spelling pattern of the week.

PE sessions

Year 5 have PE on the following days:

- Thursday
- Friday

Year 6 have PE on the following days:

- Wednesday
- Friday

Children should come into school in their PE kits on their PE days. As it begins to get chillier, children will need a long-sleeved top under their PE shirts or a black/navy jumper/hoodie. Water bottles are advisable.

Rewards

Children gain achievement points for: working hard, showing resilience, good work in books, participating well in class, being respectful, good homework, getting star of the day or helping in school. When children gain 300 points, they receive a bronze badge and certificate. It has been great seeing

A Church of England Academy

Paradise Orchard • Berryfields • Aylesbury • Buckinghamshire • HP18 0WS

01296 428551(Secondary) • 01296 674263 (Primary) • enquiries@theacademy.me • www.theacademy.me

Aylesbury Vale Academy, Company Limited by Guarantee Company Registered in England and Wales No 06745367 Registered Office: Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX5 1GF



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England



DIOCESE OF OXFORD



ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE
School & College Member

so many children receiving awards during last term. We hope that everyone will soon receive their bronze and be on their way to silver!

Snacks, water bottles and coats

Children are allowed to bring in a snack for break time. This should be fruit, vegetables or a cereal bar – chocolate / crisps are not allowed.

Children should be bringing their own water bottles in – they can be re-filled during breaks and lunchtimes if needed.

As the weather is turning cooler now (and the rain is creeping in), children need to bring in a coat to wear.

Booking online

Please remember to book online for school lunches and wraparound care as you need to. You can find more details on this on the Academy website.

NO Nuts or Sesame

Please be aware that we are a nut free school. This means NO NUTS, SESAME OR NUT/SESAME PRODUCTS should be brought into school. We have staff and children in the school who will need hospital attention if they come into contact with nuts, sesame or nut/sesame products such as peanut butter, chocolate spread, hummus etc. We really appreciate your help in keeping everybody safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email the school office and these will be forwarded to the class teacher or myself.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email the school.

Mrs Stewart
Upper Key Stage 2 Lead

A Church of England Academy

Paradise Orchard • Berryfields • Aylesbury • Buckinghamshire • HP18 0WS

01296 428551(Secondary) • 01296 674263 (Primary) • enquiries@theacademy.me • www.theacademy.me

Aylesbury Vale Academy, Company Limited by Guarantee Company Registered in England and Wales No 06745367 Registered Office: Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX5 1GF



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England



**ANTI-BULLYING
ALLIANCE**

School & College Member

 **DIOCESE OF OXFORD**