



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN 4

24 September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Headteacher Update

This week I have felt full of pride. It was wonderful to walk around the classrooms on Tuesday afternoon and see what a strong start the children have made to their learning this year: all the way from some great first attempts at writing in Reception all the way up some rather tricky looking area calculations in Year 5 Mathematics! Year 6 did themselves proud too, with the way they approached their assessments this week. I'm also proud of our staff for the work they put into Open Evening on Thursday to ensure the school was at its very best for all out visitors. We are so lucky to have a team of adults who also feel a sense of pride in our school – seeing the pride others have about the place they work is a very lovely experience.

Finally, a huge thank you to parents and carers also, for your support and understanding in response to my message last week about school pick-ups. It has been lovely to have very positive conversations with some of you about how the year has started, the achievements of children and your gratitude for the work of our team. If you are coming along to AVA'Bury tomorrow, I hope you have a fantastic time, and I look forward to seeing you there at some point and getting to know you a bit better in a more informal setting

With best wishes,
Mr Cooper



Census Day

We have Census day coming up on the 1st October. Please see the menu attached, these can be booked on the School Gateway app now.

We often find these a popular choice so please book as soon as possible.

Recruiting New Governors

We have been delighted by the exceptional level of interest shown in becoming a governor. The number of expressions of interest received has exceeded the vacancies currently available, and we would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to get in touch.

As a result, we have temporarily paused further expressions of interest while we review the applications received. We will keep our school community updated and will share details should additional opportunities arise in the future. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Academy.

Enrichment Clubs

Children are allowed to bring in snacks for enrichment clubs.

Please make sure they are allergy friendly and are in line with break time snacks with no chocolate.

Author Visit

The outstanding M.G. Leonard visited Years 4, 5 and 6 yesterday to talk about her new book, 'Attack of the Seadogs'.

Her books are often steeped in history, and she shared so many interesting facts about a range of eras, from Tutankhamun to Sir Francis Drake! M.G. Leonard had the children (and the adults!) transfixed by her story-telling – thank you to all the parents who supported this visit.

These author visits continue to be free, with the support of Our Bookshop in Tring, and we extend our thanks to Ben and the team there. If you would like to purchase the book still, you can use the Our Bookshop link below, but please remember to select home delivery as the visit has already happened. Attack of the Sea Dogs - Our Bookshop Tring

[Attack of the Sea Dogs - Our Bookshop Tring](#)

AVA'Bury Festival

AVA'bury 2026 is this Saturday!!

Open from 12.30 – 17.00

Come along and enjoy an afternoon packed with fun, entertainment and activities for everyone.

Performances - Performances from our talented students and special guests.

Inflatables & Rides - Inflatables, rides, go-karts and bungee trampolines for everyone to enjoy.

Games - A variety of games and activities.

Stalls - Stalls from vendors and students, offering a range of things to browse and enjoy.

Food & Drink - Enjoy delicious food including PTA BBQ, pizza, jerk chicken, churros, cakes and cookies, along with our PTA bar.

Tickets - Tickets are just **£2.50 per person**, in advance or on the gate. Under 4s go free!

BUY TICKETS HERE - <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/aylesburyvaleacademy>

Volunteers Needed! - Don't forget, we need volunteers to help make AVA'bury 2026 a success! You can sign up to volunteer via the ticket link above or email us at: Ava.pta@hotmail.com

Volunteers get FREE entry! - Bring your family and friends and join us for a fantastic afternoon of fun, food and entertainment. We look forward to seeing you there!
AVA PTA



Upcoming Dates

26/09/26 – AVA'Bury Festival
01/10/26 – Open morning 9.15am (Primary only)
06/10/26 – Open morning 9.15am (Primary only)
08/10/26 – Yrs R-2 Author Visit
09/10/26 – Secondary Transfer Test Results Day
12-16/10/26 – Yr 6 Residential
w/c 19/10/26 – **No enrichment/teacher led clubs**
20/10/26 – Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
22/10/26 – Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
23/10/26 – INSET
26-30/10/26 – HALF TERM
03/11/26 – Open Classrooms 3.30-4.15pm



<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/aylesbury-vale-academy-pta/j3tk26/at/EDA0jpqh/DM1329426/facebook/>

Our next PTA meeting is set for Thursday 8th October at 6.30pm in the Secondary Main Hall.

We look forward to seeing some of you there.

If you are interested in joining our wonderful PTA please email ava.pta@hotmail.com

Reflection

This week, as we opened our school doors to parents and families for both Open Classrooms and our Open Evening, we are reminded that a school is much more than classrooms, books and lessons. It is a community. Opening our doors gives us the opportunity to share the wonderful learning that takes place each day, to celebrate our children and to strengthen the important partnership between home and school. For our children to truly flourish, they need to know that the adults around them are working together, encouraging them, supporting them and celebrating their achievements. We hope that when parents walk through our doors, they feel not simply like visitors, but an important part of our school family.

Dear God,

As we open our school doors,
help us to open our hearts to one another.
Thank you for our children, families and staff,
and for all that makes our school community special.
Help us to work together, support one another
and help every child to flourish.
Bless all who enter our school,
and may everyone feel welcomed, valued and loved.
Amen.

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=vuYj3JiOk-ROAcP9_VtsKSZm5ilcidJig5HlgRJQUZUMEVCuk1PMUZXRtq1UUIUVVBaSFNYUFICMi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cA359AD1B-53A8-5F47-9B1A-80EC4AFA2E4C

Free School Meals

For anyone wanting to apply for FSM, please can you send then this link:

[Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Application Form – Fill out form](#)

Report Parking Issues

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/parking/tell-us-about-a-parking-problem/>

Community Services in Bucks

Helping Hand: 01296 531151, helpinghands@buckinghamshire.gov.uk. Anyone worried about food, and not sure what help is available, can contact Bucks Council's Helping Hand support line (above).

This line is open 9am – 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and 9am – 5pm on Friday. The out of hours team can be contacted in emergencies on 0800 999 7677.

Community Services in Aylesbury

Mind the Gap Peer Support: BBs Café, Aylesbury, Pauline Hayden, 07788438134.

St Mary's Aylesbury: 07714 246593 / 01296 437641.

House of Mercy: Aylesbury Tel: **Mobile 1:**07985636361 **Mobile 2:**07506680717. Weekly Food donation.



Buckinghamshire Family Learning



FREE ONLINE WELLBEING COURSES & WORKSHOPS for Parents and Carers of Children in Secondary School

YEARS 7, 8 & 9

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Understand what stress and anxiety are and explore strategies to help your child deal pressure. Look at ways to help young people deal with setbacks and build their resilience, both at school and home.



Tuesday 15th September - 13th October



9:30am - 12pm

Course code:
FMWB057



YEARS 10 & 11

HELP YOUR CHILD BUILD CONFIDENCE, FRIENDSHIPS & MANAGE STRESS

Practical ideas to improve your child's well-being, be it helping to build your child's confidence, managing peer pressure or stress and anxiety.



Monday 21st September



7pm - 9pm

Course code:
FMWB022



TO BOOK
YOUR PLACE



01296 383582 - Enrolment team
or **SCAN** the QR code
or **CLICK** on the course code link



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POP-UP LIBRARY

The Annex
ELMHURST FAMILY HUB

Refreshments available



**Discover the joy of
reading together!**

Visit our Pop-Up Library
to discover what your
local library can offer!



Join the library for free



Borrow books and
children's stories



Find out about local library
services and activities



Get tips and ideas to support
reading, language and learning at home



Enjoy a welcoming space for
families to explore together



Wednesday
7 October



10:00am –
2:00pm



The Annex
Elmhurst Family Hub

Dunsham Lane, Aylesbury, HP20 2DB