



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN 3

18 September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Headteacher Update

I am quickly learning that there is no such thing as a "normal" week here! Just when it felt like we were settling into a rhythm, Friday came and amid the flurry of vibrant non-uniform there were lots and lots of donations to collect and manage! Thank you so much for your generosity — the PTA have a lot of tombola goodies to sort through now!

I am looking forward to another "not normal" week next week. Tuesday 22nd is our first Open Classroom event of the year and I am looking forward to meeting many of you as we invite you to come and see what the children have been doing from Reception up to Year 6. Then on Thursday 24th we have our Open Evening for parents considering AVA for their child in 2027-28. As a result of this, school will close early and the times and arrangements for this have been shared with you. Additionally, there will be no After School Club on Thursday to facilitate the setting up for the event and I thank you for your understanding around this important event in the school's calendar. The sessions have been removed from School Gateway and anyone who has booked will have a credit on their account.

Finally, I know a few parents have expressed some concerns about dismissal of children at the end of the day. This is a system we review and discuss regularly to ensure we are doing everything we can to ensure safety comes first. If this means there are some slight delays with some classes or children being dismissed, this is something we have to accept. Where there are other issues, we do follow up on these. To support school staff, please can I remind those adults collecting to try and avoid crowding around the gate openings and to move away from the exits promptly once children have been collected. Another huge help in speeding up a dismissal is to give us a wave and a smile as you see us with your child so that we can release them with the confidence that they know exactly where their adult is waiting for them. School leadership have a few further ideas about what we might try in the future to improve dismissal but none of these could be implemented immediately because they either have financial implications, or might impact the other aspects of the school's operations or would require a period of consultation with stakeholders and the Academy Principal. Therefore, for the time being we will all need to work together to make the best of the current arrangements and keep everyone safe.

I wish you all a great weekend.

With best wishes,
Mr Cooper

AVA'Bury Festival

We're delighted to announce that our fourth **AVA'Bury Festival** will take place on **Saturday 26 September!**

We are seeking volunteers to help ensure the day runs as smoothly and successfully. If you would like to help out, please get in touch with the PTA: ava.pta@hotmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!

Early Closure – Thursday 24 September 2026

On **Thursday 24 September 2026**, Aylesbury Vale Academy is holding its annual Open Evening for current Year 6 students, and for children looking for a Reception space in September 2027.

In order to make the necessary preparations for the evening, school will finish at the following times:

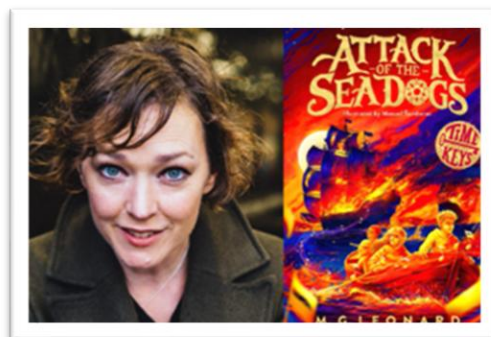
- **Reception** – 12 noon
- **Years 1 and 2** – 12.10pm
- **Year 3 and 4** – 12.15pm
- **Year 5 and 6** – 12.25pm
- **Years 7 to 13** – 12.25pm

Pre-School will be open for both their AM/PM sessions, and the setting will operate as normal.

Children in the Primary Phase will have lunch at school and should be collected from the playground at the usual gates.

Upcoming Author Visit – Years 4, 5 and 6

On Thursday 24th September, we are delighted to be welcoming author MG Leonard to our school where she will be talking to the children about her wonderful new book, *Attack of the Sea Dogs*.



MG Leonard is the bestselling writer of children's books such as *Beetle Boy*, the *Adventures on Trains* series and *The Twitchers* books. Her work has been translated into over forty languages and *Beetle Boy* is currently in development for a TV series. She's coming to talk about her amazing Time Key series and her new book *Attack of the Sea Dogs*.

You can order a signed copy from Our Bookshop- click below:

<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/attack-of-the-sea-dogs/>

The signed books will be given to your child on the day which is always very exciting!

Buggy Park

The family centre has been in touch to kindly ask that any scooters or bikes are put in the correct scooter park down near the Preschool entrance. Please do not use the buggy park near the family centre as this is needed for the families that are visiting them.

The School Anti Bullying Club

The School Anti bullying club are looking for donations for the wellbeing garden.

These can be dropped off to the garden at the AVA'Bury festival or Mrs Lloyd can be contacted for any further information.

Upcoming Dates

22/09/26 – Sibling and Individual Photos
24/09/26 – Yrs 4-6 Author Visit
26/09/26 – AVA'Bury Festival
01/10/26 – Open morning (Primary only)
06/10/26 - Open morning (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 3.30-4.30pm

PE Days for this term

Reception – no PE this term

Year 1 – Wednesday & Thursday

Year 2 – Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 3 – Tuesday & Thursday

Year 4 – Monday & Friday

Year 5 – Wednesday & Friday

Year 6 – Thursday & Friday

School Collection Times

Please find below clarification of which gate each class/year will come out of:

Gate A (middle) - Turtles (2:45) / Year 2 (3pm) / Year 4 (3:05) / Year 5 (3:10)

Gate B (closest to Pre-School) - Dolphins (2:45) / Year 1 (3pm) / Year 3 (3:05) / Year 6 (3:10)



<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 we marked the International Day of Democracy, a time to focus in on the British Values and celebrating the importance of everyone having a voice. Our children this week have chosen their School Parliament representatives and Eco Warriors and we know this new team of passionate children will do us proud.

Prayer

Loving God,

Thank You for the gift of being able to share our thoughts and ideas. Help us to listen carefully to others, to treat everyone fairly, and to use our voices kindly and wisely. May we work together to build a community where everyone feels valued, respected, and heard.

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=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9_VtsKSZm5ilcidJiq5HlqRJQUZUMEVCUK1PMUZXRtq1UllUVVBaSFNYUFICMi4u&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/>

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

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.

AVA PTA PRESENTS

AVA'BURY FESTIVAL 2026

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

STALLS - GAMES - FOOD
BAR - LIVE MUSIC - RIDES

SCAN TO BUY TICKETS
£2.50 PP



The Aylesbury Vale Academy
Paradise Orchard HP18 0WS



Doors open at 12:30pm
Live music from 1pm
Finishes at 5pm

Enquiries: ava.pta@hotmail.com

NEW AVA
RECEPTION & YEAR 7
STUDENTS OF 2026
FREE ENTRY!



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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adultlearningbc.ac.uk



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