



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 18 14th January 2022



Dear Parents/Carers

This week has been very exciting in school. As the world and rules around us continue to change (and confuse us!) we strive to keep school as settled and enjoyable as possible. As you can see I doubt we could have squeezed more into a week!!

Pre-school have been busy this week and have a new January intake of three year olds. They have settled well and we have enjoyed getting to know the new personalities. Lots of new friendships have blossomed, and we look forward to seeing more as they settle in.

This term they came back to a new topic of 'my house, your house,' they will be looking at quality stories to help them look at different houses, homes and families.

They have also made some story maps this week, for the story of Peace at Last, the children are very good at telling the story together with actions and sound effects.

Next week they are looking at Shark in the park. If you have any pictures of Berryfields, homes or buildings please send them in to the AVA preschool.

avapreschool@theacademy.me

This week Key stage 1 were very excited to have two PCSO's visit us. They told us a story about PC Ben and all the different jobs that he gets up to and all the people he helps. We even were able to sit in the police car and turn on the siren!



The year 3 classrooms had a visit by a mysterious creature on Monday, leaving footprints of crumbled stones in its path. We all worked together to think about what it could be and decided it must be a stone giant! We are now working on a set of instructions on how to trap a stone giant!

In Year 5 this week, we have had two gentlemen from UK Astronomy in to talk about our Space and Earth topic.

Year 5 and 6 are also running extra-curricular lunch clubs in Arithmetic and Homework. We are hopeful that this will support the children as they get closer to transitioning to secondary school. Parents do not have to sign up for these clubs – it is down to the children to join in in their lunch times.

Clubs

The extra-curricular clubs have been in full swing with most of them being full! Thank you to everyone who has signed up for these.

We will continue to offer new clubs each term so that we have a vast range of activities available throughout the year. I would like to thank the staff who volunteer to run the clubs. It is lovely to see children interacting with staff that they may not see ordinarily.

Monday 17th January - World Religion Day!

The newly appointed Year 5 and 6 Equality and Diversity Ambassadors would like AVA to celebrate World Religion Day on Monday 17th January.

We are asking that children who follow all different religions bring in an item, a photo, or a story about their religion to show and tell to their classes on Monday.

We can't wait to see and celebrate all the wonderful religions we have in our school community!

From Year 5 and 6 Equality and Diversity Ambassadors.

Absences

Please remember no holidays will be authorised. Over the Christmas period we saw an increase in requests for children to be absent, especially to go overseas. Whilst we are sympathetic to the current situation, we cannot allow children to miss school due to travelling for a holiday. Sadly, if a child is not in school for 20 days, they run the risk of losing their place here at AVA. Please contact the attendance team if you require further help.

COVID & Testing Requirements

As above we are seeing an increase in positive cases in school and ask that you all be vigilant to the symptoms so that we are able to remain open and reduce the spread of the virus. We have sent out a letter separately regarding testing and what that looks like for parents at the minute, we hope that clears up any confusion over the every changing landscape of lateral flows and PCRs. We will continue to send these as and when we receive confirmation from the Department of Education and Public Health England.

Reflection for the Week

This week we enjoyed an assembly let by Mr Johnson on tree growth.

Wood is amazing! Each piece of wood has its own story to share.

It tells its own history about the weather and the conditions in each year of its growth.

Whether the conditions are good or bad, a tree still grows a new ring despite the challenges it faces.

During the coming year, both good and bad things will happen to everyone.

There will be things that are sad, happy, frightening, exciting but like a tree we can always start a new growth and flourish with God by our side.

Have a lovely weekend, keep warm and I am sure we will have another COVID update to share on Monday!!

Kind regards
Mrs C Baughan



HM Government



If you have any of the following symptoms:



A new, continuous cough



A high temperature



A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

**Get a test as soon as possible.
Stay at home until you get the result.**

Well-being Matters

The current situation is a challenge for all, and we appreciate our students may find the uncertainty of the pandemic difficult. The safeguarding team are always here to support our students and we can be reached directly using the following email address: safeguarding@theacademy.me

There are several charities who can support your child if you are concerned about their mental health, these are listed below:



Kooth - online counselling for young people

www.kooth.com



Every Mind Matters

www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters



Mind

www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing



Mental Health Foundation

<https://mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus>

**Thank you for everything you are doing at this difficult time in support the children at the
Aylesbury Vale Academy.**