



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 6

1st October 2021



Dear Parents/Carers

We were very excited to welcome so many of you into the school on Tuesday to visit classrooms and look at children's work. Thank you to everyone who came and took the time to spend the afternoon with us. Thank you also to the parents who have emailed us to express their pride and happiness at what they saw. Our staff work hard to ensure that we have a safe, purposeful environment and despite the difficulties over the past few months our standards have not dropped.

We are disappointed to have cancelled yesterday's open evening event. With cases rising we sought advice and made the difficult decision. The safety and wellbeing of our children, staff and community has always been (and will always be) our priority and ensuring that we can keep classes and ultimately the school open is at the forefront of our minds. We are looking at booking future dates in which prospective families can visit us - on a smaller scale when the school is closed. I would like to thank our site and cleaning teams for working so hard to ensure that we are working in a safe and clean environment.

October marks Black History Month and in school we will be studying different topics relating to this. When we reviewed the curriculum at AVA in 2020 we decided to make diversity, religions and cultures apparent in all areas of learning throughout the whole of the academic year. You will have seen examples of this in your child's books and in the displays around the school. We will use this month alongside our broad curriculum to celebrate black icons and culture.

We have had a number of cases of chicken pox in the lower school. It is common for children in Reception to have this when they start school. Please keep your child at home if they have chicken pox and follow the advice on the NHS website about treatment and when to return to school.

Next Friday (8th October) we have the photographer in school. PE will be cancelled on this day so that all children can attend school in their school uniform rather than PE kits.

Unfortunately, a member of staff's car was damaged last week in the staff carpark. They returned at the end of the day to find a scrape along the side of their car which has been caused by a scooter. We do have CCTV in the car park and will contact the parents concerned. Please supervise your children and remember there should be no scooters and bikes being ridden in this area.

When collecting the children at the end of the day please ensure you look at us when we are dismissing and try to space out. It is difficult for little people to navigate their way through to find their adult when there are groups of people.

On Friday 22nd October (the last day of term) we will be holding a charity mufli day. There will be a £1 per child donation to a charity very close to our hearts - more information to follow.

This year we are celebrating Harvest Festival from Monday 11th October. We are going to be supporting our local food banks and are looking to collect packets, jars and tins of food as well as treats, toiletries and baby food. There will be a table in school and Mrs Foulger will be coordinating the collection with the school Parliament.

Year 6 parents - please do not forget to apply for your child's secondary school place. You NEED to apply for a space at AVA via the Buckinghamshire Council portal if you wish for your child to remain here. The 11+ results are released on Friday 15th October. The children who took the assessment will be given a sealed envelope to bring home. We ask that no child opens their results at school. I will be available on Monday 18th October to discuss the results with individual families should this be needed.

Vision Screen – Yr 1

The Vision Screening for Yr 1 has been postponed. The school nursing team will advise of another date, all of the opt out forms will still be OK for the next time they are able to come in.

Parent Consultations

The Autumn Term Parent Consultations are as follows:

19.10.21 – 3.30pm – 5.00pm

21.10.21 – 5.30pm – 8.00pm

Due to the high number of COVID cases and the continued rise of these within the school we feel that for this term the Parent Consultations will be held virtually via the School Evening Cloud system.

The appointments will go live on 04.10.21 at 9am and will close on 18.10.21 at 9am. Please book onto the system we will be unable to have meetings outside of these times.

To book onto the system on the 4th please follow this link:

<https://aylesburyvaleacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Attendance

When your child is absent it is important to call in every morning and let the attendance team know. If we do not receive a message through the absence line or email (primaryattendance@theacademy.me) then your child's absence will go down as unauthorised. This still applies if you have spoken with us and are awaiting a PCR result or experiencing an illness that lasts more than the one day. The only exceptions for this is if your child has a positive COVID result and we have discussed a return date, if your child is experiencing sickness or diarrhoea (48hr rule, unless another bout we need to be made aware of), or if we have received an absence request form.

Harvest Donations

Items most needed are:

- Tinned fruit
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Chocolate
- Crisps
- Tinned meat
- Instant mash
- Shower gel

- Deodorants
- Sponge puddings
- Beans
- Jam
- Sauces
- Powdered / long life milk
- Soup
- Biscuits
- Long life fruit juice
- Baby food
- Nappies

If food is donated in bags for life, these bags will also go to the food banks as they are always in need of them. Please bring them to the Reception area where we will set up a table.

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

NHS

EVERY MIND MATTERS

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.**