



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 65

14th October 2022

Welcome...

We are only one week away from half-term and so much has happened this term already.

We have seen a massive improvement in our students' uniform and it is great to see the pride they show in wearing it. We opened our school to future parents for our Open Evening and Open Mornings this month and the feedback was overwhelming positive. We were so in demand that we've had to offer two more Open Mornings next week. The students at AVA have been ambassadors for their school and parents walking around remarked how focussed they were and how orderly the school was.

Following their tour, one prospective parent said: "Both students who led out tour were absolutely fantastic; polite, knowledgeable and helpful. It was informative, engaging and fun, and it was lovely to hear from such polite and articulate children."

Finally, it was a pleasure to open our doors for Year 7, 9 and 12 Settling In Evening. The buzz in the school reminded us of the fantastic engagement from parents and carers. Thank you.

Have a good weekend,

Gavin Gibson
Academy Principal

For the latest news from AVA why not click the images to follow us on:



Contacting the School:

Year 7: year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 8: year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 9: year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 10: year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 11: year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Post 16: post16@theacademy.me

Key Links:

[Secondary website](#)

[Parents' evenings](#)

[EduLink One](#)

[Trips/Lunch money](#)

Subject Superstars

This week's **History Hero** is **Zore B** (Year 11), for her outstanding effort, attention to details, and a great mini-mock score on the Treaty of Versailles.



Ingredients for KS3 Food Technology and KS4 Hospitality and Catering

To help with rising costs of ingredients, we have made some adaptations to our recipes. You will notice that some ingredients are listed as 'optional'. This means that if you have them at home already then students should bring them to school as normal, but we will have them available to use if not. These ingredients are normally store cupboard or needed in small amounts such as oil, herbs and spices.



Every student, regardless of whether or not they are using these ingredients from school should be bringing in a large leak-proof container and a carrier bag to take their finished dish home in.

It is an expectation that **all** students bring their own ingredients to school for their practical cooking lessons. A list of the ingredients required is posted on MS Teams one week in advance of the practical lesson.

We have already seen some fantastic work being produced this year, so congratulations to all students across the Design and Technology department.

Black History Month

AVA's Black History Month celebrations continue throughout October, with posters celebrating influential figures displayed across the school, more Black History Month assemblies, Caribbean food served in the Atrium on **Tuesday October 18th**, and a Form Quiz.



The second screening of Hidden Figures takes place on **Monday October 17th** from 3pm – 4.30pm. If your child would like to attend, please complete the permission slip on the letter sent via Edulink.

The **Art** department's Black History Month competition remains open until **Friday November 4th**, with students invited to design a motivational poster, create a portrait of a black icon, or pay homage to their own family background or culture – and try to win one of two Amazon vouchers in the process. Entries should be handed in to a member of staff in the Art department.



Create a piece of artwork inspired by Black History Month. The work should be minimum A4 and you can use a range of different materials.

PRIZES:
1st prize £ 25
amazon voucher
2nd prize £ 15
amazon voucher

Deadline: Friday 4th November
Hand in: Art Department

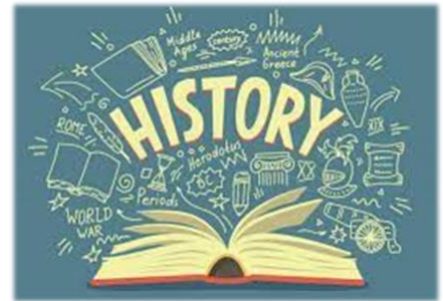
GCSE History Trip to Berlin

All parents/ carers of participants of this trip have been emailed a form to complete.

Your prompt response would be greatly appreciated so we can book flights and honour prices.

You can also find this form on your child's History class Teams page. Just one response is required.

This trip is now full, but we are compiling a reserves list. If you would like to be added to this list, please hand in your letters to Mrs Michhiana.



Congratulations to Mrs Crumpton!

Our very own Mrs Crumpton showed huge amounts of resilience to complete her sixth (and final, so she says...!) London Marathon on **Sunday October 2nd**, crossing the finishing line in 5 hours 41 minutes.

In doing so, Mrs Crumpton raised more than £1,500 for the Children with Cancer charity.

Whilst not planning to run in the event in 2023, Mrs Crumpton will be volunteering at the race to share her years of experience with other.

Parenting workshop

We would like to invite parents into school for a Parenting Workshop **on Thursday October 20th** from 6-7pm. The workshop will cover what support we can offer in school to support your child and the family.

We also have Buckinghamshire County Council in for the evening, who will talk about the free services they can offer our families. The event is open to all parents and carers but we have a limited number of seats. If you are interested in attending, please register [here](#).

Purchasing Revision Books on ParentPay

Did you know you can purchase revision books for your child via Parent Pay?

Purchasing revision books this way is quick and easy, meaning your child will receive the book in school once ordered.

All available books can be found [here](#).



Careers



HONDA

Honda Employer Webinar

If your child enjoys cars, vehicle maintenance or engineering, they will be interested in our first Employer Webinar of the year, hosted by Honda.

The UK automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy worth more than £78.9 billion in turnover. Over 1 million people are employed across the automotive industry, with more than 30 manufacturers building in excess of 70 models of vehicle in the UK, all of which need to be serviced and maintained by skilled engineers.

Attend this seminar if you would like the opportunity to discuss a career within the automotive industry, particularly in the field of vehicle maintenance where motor vehicle technicians are required to keep up to date with new automotive technology.

The webinar takes place online on **Tuesday November 8th** from 6pm to 7pm, and can be accessed [here](#).

Online careers and work experience

Over the coming weeks we have a range of online careers and work experience days for students aged 14-18 to take part in, helping students find out more about their possible future careers and take part in interactive sessions where they can gain experience to help in their university applications.

The schedule is as follows:

Saturday October 15th - Midwifery Career Day

Saturday November 5th - Psychology Career Day

Saturday November 12th - Business Career Day

Saturday November 19th - Architect Career Day

Saturday November 26th - Vet Career Day

Saturday December 3rd - Law Career Day

Saturday December 10th - Science Career Day

Saturday December 17th - Arts Career Day

Students can visit www.careerdays.co.uk to choose their sessions.



Regular Bulletin Items



Donate or Swap Your Uniform!

If you have a blazer that does not fit your child, bring it in to school and we may be able to swap it for a second hand one in good condition.

Alternatively, if you would like to **donate your old blazer any branded items or any uniform items to the school**, we would be very grateful. Just come in to the main reception and talk to our staff. This can really help families in need.

Special Educational Needs

If you have concerns regarding your child's learning and would like to discuss them with the Special Educational Needs team, please complete the online form, [here](#).

Meeting with Staff

At AVA – as at all schools - staff work to their own timetables, which means they are often in the classroom or on a duty when you may want to meet with them.

The best way to organise a meeting with any member of staff is via Reception, either by calling 01296 482551 or by emailing enquiries@theacademy.me. Requests are always passed on to the relevant person, and they will be in touch with you to arrange a convenient meeting time.



Organising a meeting in this way gives staff the chance to prepare in advance, which usually leads to a quicker resolution than when parents come in to reception without an appointment.



Mrs Weedon says... It's been a very busy week for Year 7, and we have completed many tutor activities, saw the Harry Potter competition deadline come and go, and had our Settling in Evening on Thursday, where it was fantastic to see so many parents/careers.

The students are looking very smart and grown up in their uniform, and they have maintained a very high standard with uniform. It is very important we maintain this throughout the year, so if your child loses their tie or shoes, please ask them to look in lost property or to come and see myself or Mrs Howe.

Ms Lutchi has been very impressed with all the litter-picking ambassadors from Year 7 and how proactive they are being to make the school an even more pleasant environment for us all to enjoy. We only have one more week to go until half term, so keep up the great work!

This week in tutor time Year 7 continued with the numeracy programme, recapping some of their skills from maths lessons. They also completed part of their careers booklet and looked at the skills they want to improve for future job prospects.

Assembly this week was delivered by Mrs Blake-Huggins on Black History Month. Mrs Blake-Huggins talked about the first black doctor in America and the struggles she faced as a young black woman.



Dates for your Diaries

Friday December 9th: Christmas Panto trip to see Aladdin. This is a great opportunity and we would love to take as many Year 7s as possible. Payments can be made via ParentPay.

Thursday May 4th: Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 7 Academy Values Awards

respect

Toby P
Manha K
Mathew L
Dharm B
Chloe N
Molly B

aspiration

Rehan S
Effie D
Ashlee B
Farhan I
Megan P
Jessica C

resilience

Madi E
Victoria N
Luqman Q
Jamiee C
Humna Q
Abigale G

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

1. Nobel 2
2. Nobel 3
3. Faraday 1

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Elise B
2. Peyton S
3. Austin S

Form Attendance (%):

1. Faraday 2 – 100%
2. Nobel 1 – 99%
3. Franklin 1 & Franklin 2 – 98%

Honourable Mentions:

1. Kallie-Rae C
2. Nicolas N
3. All the students who came to Settling In Evening – it was lovely to see you and meet your families

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Weedon and the Year 7 Team



Ms Dutson says... This week Year 8 have settled into their weekly routines and are fully aware of the Tutor Programme, and which activity or task will take place on any given day.

The Year 8 Team have been busy preparing for the Year 8 Awards Assembly which will take place during their Year Assembly on Monday morning. We are looking forward to celebrating our Term 1 successes and presenting certificates.

Year 8's attendance this week has improved across all tutor groups, and a huge 'well done!' should go to our top form this week Nobel 2 who had 100% attendance!

Achievements outside of school

We would love to celebrate and recognise our students' activities outside of school, either at home or in the community, so please do ask them to share their successes with us whether it's a special cake baked, taking part in a sporting event, or doing something special for a family member, friend or in the community we would love to hear about it. You can also contact us on Year8enquiries@theacademy.me.



Places for the visit to Kew Gardens, organised by our Geography department, went very swiftly, and we are aware that some students interested in going were not able to secure a place. We apologise if your child was affected.

There are still some places left on our Indian Dance Workshop, which will be held during P2 on the **Tuesday November 1st**. Letters were sent out last week via Edulink.

Professional Dancers will be visiting the Academy to deliver the workshop. If your

child is interested but requires further information, please do direct them to myself or Mrs Powell. Securing a place can be done by making payment of £5.50 via Parent Pay.

To mark it World Mental Health Day we provided our students with some information about why mental health is important, how we can look after our own mental health, where to seek help if we need it, and how to recognise those around us who may need our support. We did this instead of Word of the Week this week.

Black History Month Assembly

On Wednesday Miss Blake-Huggins, one of our esteemed Science Teachers, delivered a presentation honouring black history through the story of Dr Tererai Trent. Dr Trent had dreams, and held on to these



despite a challenging start in life. Born in Rhodesia, denied education for being female, traded for a cow at 13 and married with 4 children by 18, she was able to hold fast to where she wanted to be. Do ask you children the story of what she did and what she became despite all the odds.

A reminder that all students should now be bringing in a reading book or have borrowed one from the library. We thank all our parents for supporting us with ensuring Year 8 look smart in full school uniform, it is very much appreciated.

Year 8 Academy Values Awards

respect

Lucia F
Louis R
Kairon C
Jenson R
Jasmine R

aspiration

Zach P
Zeeshan A
Ryley C
Paige D
Rana W

resilience

Isabella P
Ibrahim A
Harry M
Hanifa S
Gabi C

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

Faraday 1 - 419

Form Attendance (%):

1. Nobel 2 – 100%
2. Faraday 1 – 97.7%
3. Nobel 3 – 97.4%

Individual Achievement Points:

- =1. Ryley C - 71
- =1. Rufus M - 71
3. Harry L - 70

Honourable Mentions:

Che B – welcome to the academy!
Leo P and **Alex W** for acting as buddies and doing an amazing job

Any enquiries, please contact year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Dutson and the Year 8 Team



Mr Hawley says... More than half way through the term! The Year 9 Council has met to begin their hard work, discussing the issues that year 9 face. Big thanks to **Chelsea B** for being the Council's Secretary for the Year 9 Council.

The Council has been invited to help out at the Settling In evening. They will be serving refreshments for our parents so that everyone's success can be enjoyed with a biscuit and a nice cup of tea. The helpers enjoyed some pizza so our workers didn't go hungry.

The Geography department have told us that black park trip was great fun and all the students and adults enjoyed it. A particular shout out from Miss Smythe was **Brooke B**; excellent work on the trip.

Myself and the Year 9 team would also like to thank for Miss Blake-Huggins for her amazing assembly about black history; it was truly inspiring.

Period 6

The deadline for Period 6 is closed, but the good news is that they can change again soon. If it a big issue students can talk to Mr. Hawley or Miss Lambourne.

Dates for your diaries

Thursday 20th October – Parent Workshop

The evening is designed to give you advice on what support we and Bucks County Council can offer your child, you and your family. If you wish to attend the evening, please complete the form [here](#).

Wednesday 16th November – World Challenge Parents' Information Evening

We ran a trip with World Challenge to Nepal last year and it was amazing. Students in Year 9 will find out more about the Malaysia trip next week...

Wednesday 18th January 2023 – GCSE History tip to Berlin

Please see main Bulletin for full details.

Year 9 Academy Values Awards

respect

Alicia D – according to Miss Burles, Alicia is 'the embodiment of the academy's values; she is supportive friend as well as striving for excellence in all subjects.'

aspiration

Ayyub A – is ambitious and aspirational in everything he does. Puts himself forward for all the school has to offer to ensure as many doors as possible are open to him when he leaves AVA. He makes us very proud.

resilience

Lily L – is undefeatable and indefatigable. She always gives her best in lessons, and puts herself out there for further achievement, all while looking out for her friends. She is an asset to this year group.

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

1. Nair's Nightmares
2. Morgan's Miracles
3. Franklin's Furies

Form Attendance (%):

1. Binns Barnacles
2. Scarlett's Super Soldiers
3. Morgan's Miracles

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Ella H – 85
2. Megan W – 81
3. Lily D - 62

Honourable Mentions:

1. Ayyub A
2. Lily L
3. Alicia D

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr Hawley and the Year 9 Team



Mr O’Leary says... Year 10 have continued to make progress with their GCSE subjects this week and have been working hard in their lessons. A special mention to Mr Walker and Ms Nair’s English classes who have impressed their teachers so far this term.

Please can we ensure students have their PE kits for the correct days.

Assemblies are on Tuesday and Friday, students need to go to the amphitheatre on both days.

Year 10 will be looking at careers during tutor time and lessons.

Tutor time, week commencing 10th October, Nobel spent tutor time looking at Unifrog.

Across the year there will be Study Higher meetings for the students to attend.

There will be plenty of opportunities this year for the whole year group.

A number of Year 10 students had a high-octane afternoon at Go Ape, scaling great heights both literally and figuratively as they overcame any fears they might’ve had to complete the course.



Extra-Curricular/PE		Lunch Clubs
Monday	Netball, Basketball, Football	Gym
Tuesday	Alternative Sports, Fitness, FightKlub	Futsal
Wednesday	Girls Football, Fitness, Martial Arts	
Thursday	Rugby, Fitness, Zumba, Academy Leaders, Football	Basketball

Tutor time	
Monday	Careers – Session 1 or 2
Tuesday	Community Assembly – Black History Month with Miss Blake-Huggins
Wednesday	Numeracy – Week 5 - Bronze/Silver/Gold Activity
Thursday	Literacy – Week 5 – Word of the Week
Friday	AD Assembly – Mr O’Leary: Friendship

Year 10 Academy Values Awards

respect

aspiration

resilience

Kaden S
Andreea N
Mia A
Junaid A
Zak B
Alfie C
Max C
Harry D
Halima EH
Ben G

Adil A
Oscar B
Jessica B
Logan F
Subhan K
Harry N
Elijah P
Riley B
Jake F
Macie G

Bryan J
Ehtan J
Haroon K
Lacey M
Ruby M
Arjan S
Alijahy WR
Callum W
Archie L
Ana GR

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

1. Franklin 1 – 112
2. Franklin 3 – 52
3. Faraday 2 – 49

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Isabella H – 52
2. Daniel F – 20
3. Archie L - 10

Form Attendance (%):

1. Franklin 2 – 94.4%
2. Nobel 1 – 92.6%
3. Franklin 3 – 91.9%

Honourable Mentions:

1. Abdelali R
2. Binta C
3. Isabella B

Any enquiries, please contact year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr O'Leary and the Year 10 Team



Mrs Leach says... This week the focus for Year 11 has been all about preparing for the pre-mocks which start on Tuesday. These are the first set of mocks for the students and are for English, Maths and Science only. All Year 11 students have been offered a free pack of revision cards to help organise their revision.

Ms Collins and I would like to wish all the students 'Good Luck' with their upcoming mocks next week.

To quote a parent from last week's successful the Getting the Grade evening:

"To all the teachers that worked late on Thursday evening, thank you, it was a good evening with lots of helpful revision tips."

The pre-mock timetable is:

Exam	Date	Time
English	Tuesday 18 th October	Period 3 & 4
Maths	Tuesday 18 th October (Non-Calculator)	Period 1 & 2
	Wednesday 19 th October (Calculator)	Period 1 & 2
Science	Wednesday 19 th October	Period 3 & 4



Getting the Grade Evening:

It was lovely welcoming parents and carers back in to school for our Getting the Grade evening last week (pictured, above). The evening focused on how parents and carers can support their child with revision. If you missed the evening, some of the highlights were:

How are we supporting your child this year?

This year we have put the following in place:

- Period 6
- Tutor time revision
- Micro-forms
- PLCs
- GCSE Pod
- Pre-mocks
- Mocks
- Careers advice
- University passport days

Why do you need to help your child develop independence?

- The reformed GCSEs and A Levels are more challenging
- To get top marks in many of the qualifications, students need to be able to have read widely and think critically
- At Sixth Form, College, University and the world of work, people expect young people to be independent
- We need to get them ready for the next stage of their lives
- They need to take ownership of their own learning

How can you help your child?

- Guiding but not instructing
- Not doing it for them but encouraging them to use you as a sounding board
- Helping to create the right atmosphere for success – somewhere where they can focus

GCSEPOD:

- What is it?
- You need to register before you can begin: www.gcsepod.com
- Register by adding your name, school email
- Check your school email account for a temporary password
- Your name will appear in the top right to show you are logged in
- Examples of the resources on offer can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Tutor time for Year 11 focuses on their core subjects, and we utilise the time to help strengthen their revision in Maths, English and Science.

Dates for your diaries:

Tuesday 18th October – Year 11 ‘Fright Night’ Reward Evening

As a treat for Year 11 we are inviting them to a cinema night in school on Tuesday 18th October, 4-6pm in the school hall. Year 11 have voted on the film that will be screened and as it is close to Halloween they have picked The Blair Witch Project. The film is a Certificate 15 which is suitable for all Year 11 students. The evening is a free event and students will receive a drink and some sweets. Please complete this [permission form](#), if you're happy for your child to stay and watch the film. If you have any questions about this showing, please email year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Friday 30th June 2023 – Year 11 Prom

The letter for the Prom was sent earlier this week to all parents. You can pay the £10 deposit via Parent Pay. We appreciate that Prom can be a costly event for parents/carers so we have offered you all a payment plan for the ticket.

Year 11 Academy Values Awards

respect

Corey C
Remy B
Ruby I

aspiration

Riley NW
Millie W
Scarlett F

resilience

Dillion M
Markus S
Alex P

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

1. Nobel 3
2. Franklin 1
3. Nobel 2

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Kendra A
2. Corey C
3. Olivia B
4. Dylan B

Form Attendance (%):

1. Nobel 3 – 95.8%
2. Franklin 1 - 95.3%
3. Nobel 2 – 92.8%

Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team



Mrs Sharma says...

The 6th Form has had a very productive week, we have completed the application and selection process for our 6th form prefects. The names of successful candidates for the new Prefect Team will be announced next week.

12 started their bi-weekly in-class support programme in the week. This enables our students to develop transferable employability skills, and also gives them an opportunity to experience the classroom from a different perspective. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and they are looking forward to the next session.



Any enquiries, please contact post16enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Sharma and the 6th Form Team

Thank you for all your support