



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 33

26th November, 2021

Welcome

Believe it or not, it is only three weeks until Christmas (although the Christmas adverts on TV started about a month ago). The school is as busy as ever with numerous trips going out to ensure we make up for lost time due to the pandemic. While the academic curriculum is extremely important, giving students cultural experiences is also crucial in developing their knowledge of the wider world. For some younger students, the trips this term have been the first they have been able to go on since they joined AVA.

This is a bit of a long bulletin this week and I am sure you will focus on the areas most relevant to you. We hope you find it useful.

I am keen to know if we are reaching all parents and would be grateful if you could spend 10 seconds and 2 clicks to confirm the numbers of parents and carers reading the bulletin. Please click once here ['Yes I read the parent bulletin.'](#)

If you have any questions regarding the information in this bulletin or anything else, please contact using the following email: enquiries@theacademy.me or by emailing one of the specific year teams using their direct email below. This is always the most efficient way to get through.

Have a good weekend.

Gavin Gibson

Academy Principal

History Heroes

This week's History Hero is **Cai Williams in Year 7** who has shown great enthusiasm for history in his lessons and through attending Horrible Histories Club after school. He has enjoyed adding to historical discussion with his own knowledge from research he has undertaken in his own time. Congratulations to him for his hard work in history.

History Team



Geographer of the Week

Every week we nominate a Geographer of the week, for outstanding work and effort in Geography. This week we have nominated **Louis Rowlett** for his fantastic work ethic in all lessons. Well done!



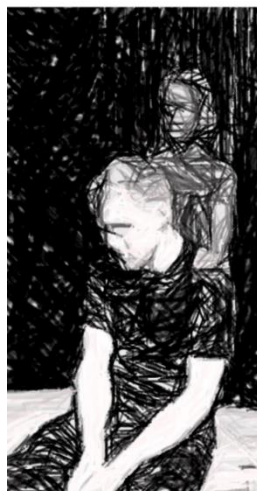
Geography Team.

Drama Production 'A Monster Calls'

We are very much looking forward to our production of 'A Monster Calls' taking place next week in the Main Hall on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of December.

As it is a public performance, please can I remind you of the following guidelines below:

- Anyone who has COVID symptoms in the last 10 days prior to the event must not attend unless they subsequently had a negative PCR test.
- Attendees over the age of 11 years are strongly encouraged to take a lateral flow test at home on the day of the event.
- Attendees over the age of 11 years are reminded that government guidance recommends face coverings be worn when you are in crowded and enclosed spaces.



A Monster Calls

Wednesday 1st December – Friday 3rd
December

7pm

AVA Main Hall

£4 per ticket, purchase from A-01-04

Age: 10+

Seats are unallocated, so please arrive in time to choose your seat.

'Easy access' seats are reserved for those audience members who need them.

A Monster Calls Based on the novel by Patrick Ness and inspired by an original idea by Siobhan Dowd, devised by Sally Cookson, Adam Peck and the Company.

We do very much look forward to seeing parents and students next week and hope you will be able to support our performance of "A Monster Calls"

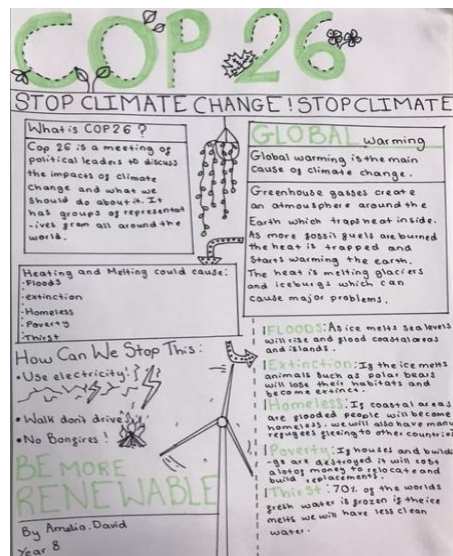
Tickets are currently available from school from Mrs Finnie at £4 each and will also be available on the door.

Mr Hallam, Curriculum leader, Performing Arts

Celebrating Homework in Geography

There have been many extremely impressive pieces of work completed by our students for homework this half term. Below are examples ranging from Year 7 research into COP26, through Year 9 plate tectonics models and GCSE ecosystems work. Well done to the vast majority of students who complete homework to a great standard, on time, without the need for reminders.

Mrs Smyth.



Year 11 Reading Ambassadors

Over recent weeks, a team of Year 11 volunteers have been helping in the English Department with Mr Cooper developing an English mentoring group. This group of Reading Ambassadors is helping the Year 7 with their understanding of book the year group has been reading as part of their Big Read project. We are working on their confidence to be able to read out loud and also in discussing the story's themes.

The book being studied is called Pax and it follows the story of a little boy and his connection with a fox. However, events change when the boy's father gets called to fight in a war, leaving the boy with his grandfather and fox abandoned in woodland hundreds of miles away. Together with their Year 11 Ambassador, Year 7s read how the two characters make their way back to each other, encountering many problems and overcoming them.

We hope by working in this way, Year 11s can inspire the Year 7s to have a passion towards reading and knowing how it helps with academic achievement. The sessions occur once a week in our library and the students read with their mentor.

Poppy Slater, Year 11

Anti-Bullying

As part of our Anti-Bullying and Equality and Diversity clubs we are reviewing how we can improve our provision. We would really appreciate if you could take a few minutes to complete the survey below. Thank you!

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9_VtsNszhqYYM-IHmo1GtbY1k-RUMVI1OUJPRjQ0MVdPN1E1VTBESk1QVTQ5Ny4u

Physical Education Updates

Girls football vs. Thornton College: 22/11/21

A fantastic start to the season, securing an amazing 4-0 win against a challenging opponent, Thornton College.

- Goal scorers: Lily R, Emily C, Viktoria R, Megan H
- Player of the match: Megan H

Incredible leadership and communication from all, as well as setting a fantastic example to all involved. Well done everyone!



Year 8 & 9 Netball V Waddesdon: 23/11/21

Congratulations to both the Year 8 & 9 Netball team that played Waddesdon on Tuesday. Both teams worked incredibly hard and showed resilience and determination during each match. Well done to both teams, another fantastic win!

- Year 8: Win: 5-4
- Year 9: Win: 7-6

ACA Showcase 2021

Aylesbury Cheerleading Academy is a local club which many of our students train and compete with. Last weekend the ACA 2021 Showcase finally arrived, which involved a large amount of AVA students performing their routines, which they have been training extremely hard for this past year. Some fantastic performances were seen, not only by our very own AVA students, but the whole club. A massive congratulations for everyone involved and another successful showcase! We are looking at offering Cheerleading as an additional extra-curricular club in the new year, however if you are interested in Cheerleading and would like more information about ACA, please refer to: <https://www.aylesburycheerleadingacademy.co.uk/>

MMAcademyFC Year 7 and 8

We run a U13s football We play in the MKDDL 1st division and matches are played on a Saturday morning. Our home pitch is AVA.

We train on a:

- Tuesday 6pm- 7pm at Ava
- Thursday 5pm - 6pm at AvA

We are looking to strengthen our side and would like a couple of additions.

We also have a talent centre that is on a Wednesday 6pm - 7pm. It's open to anyone who is interested in developing their football.

Please contact MMAcademyFC.co.uk to register.

Mr Verity

Year 7

Update

It was a pleasure earlier this week to visit the form rooms and admire the wonderful Anti-Bullying door displays our Yr 7s had put together, they should be very proud.

7



Well-deserved congratulations to the competition winners:

- 1st Place Franklin 3 and Mr Williamson
- 2nd Place Franklin 2 and Miss Crumpton
- 3rd Place 7 Nobel 3 and Miss Horn

I am sure you will agree that the winning entries were outstanding, the Year 7 Team are very proud that our year group took all the accolades.



On behalf of Year 7 we would like to thank Mrs Lloyd and the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for all their hard work last week, we know that their efforts have motivated many of our Year 7's to become Ambassadors in the future.

Creating Period Equality in Education

All female Year 7 students had an assembly with Mrs Ripley, our Medical Officer, to tell them about the products available to them at school and how they can access these. They were all offered a pack of Always Ultra Towels to take away with them at the end of Assembly.

We believe that period products should be made available to those who need them in education as they're a necessity, not a luxury. The Department for Education's (DfE) Period Product scheme provides free period products to young people who need them in schools and colleges. This scheme will enable all learners to participate fully in education by making period products available as and when they are needed. There is a choice of pads and tampons, including environmentally-friendly and reusable products.

Boys Football

Our Year 7 boys had their first fixture of the season this week and what an impressive start. The game was against the Grange School and thrilling from the start with great play throughout both halves. The final score was 6-6. A well done to our team players:

- Finlay C (captain), Nathan H, Alex W, Oliver S, AJ M, Salem Y, Connor M, Carter M, Aiden A, Carrick E, Connor K

Special mention goes to Leo M - player of the match.

Year 7 Christmas Film Show

A reminder to all our Year 7s and our parents that we will be showing a Christmas film as chosen by students on the 10th of December. Tickets will be £2 and include popcorn. Sweets and refreshments will be on sale throughout the event. Proceeds will go to our older student's trip to Nepal. All students are very welcome.

Reading Challenge

As highlighted just before half term, all our students have a copy of PAX to read during tutor time and at home. Here is an introduction:

<https://youtu.be/pmGiXNU7F7w>

This week, we were delighted to hand out lots of certificates for reading independently, offering ideas in discussion, and using the AVA values of resilience and ambition to help make progress with this challenging read.

There are plenty of certificates and achievement points to come!

Thank you to the Year 7 tutor team and Ms Dutson for helping this to start so positively.

Your encouragement to make sure students are reading PAX at home would be appreciated. We want everyone to finish the story before the end of term and compete in the PAX Tutor group quiz.

Thank you.

Mr Walker

Literacy Lead

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded the Resilience, Aspiration, and Respect award. These students have been nominated by their classroom teachers:

Respect: Nadia H, Elizabeth B, Jasmine J, Macy R, Kayden R, Muhammad N, Emily C, Cameron C

Aspiration: Freya R, Kaya N, Temi O, Jamil A, Chloe S, Ravneet K, Alex J

Resilience: Emily C, Humayun H, Carrick E, Kayden C, Alaina B, Kaitlin P

Brilliant - well done to you all.

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Dutson and the Year 7 Team

Year 8

Update

Year 8s have had a fantastic week this week.

We have had many more volunteers to fulfil the role of litter pickers at break and lunch times. Thank you to all these students that have volunteered. We have also had an amazing response to students applying to



become AVA pupil wellbeing Ambassadors. Well done to all the students who have applied for this position. You will hear from Ms Gibbs shortly.

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Year 8 Parents evening will be held virtually on **Thursday 9th December**. The portal is now open for these appointments to be booked via Schoolcloud. All information and instructions have been sent via Edulink from Mrs Lloyd. Please book appointments as soon as possible. If you have any concerns or are unable to do this, please contact the Year 8 team.

School Trips

Please ensure you complete medical forms and return them as soon as possible for any trips your child may wish to attend. Without these forms and payments made on Parentpay, your child's place may be offered to another student if we don't receive them on time.

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded the Resilience, Aspiration, and Respect award. These students have been nominated by their classroom teachers:

Respect: Shrid B, Harry R, Euan B, Harrison T

Aspiration: Mikey T, Dexter C, Louis C, Sumbal N, Andreea P

Resilience: Adam S, Oliwia K, Jaiden K, Summer W, Katy W, Aizere A, Joleen C

Well done to all those receiving recognition. You should feel extremely proud.

Any enquiries, please contact year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Lloyd and the Year 8 Team

Year 9



Update

In this week during tutor time has followed the pattern of numeracy and literacy with literacy activities focusing on the Read to Succeed programme. Tutor time on Friday, the year group looked into the Duke of Edinburgh award, all tutors group shown a video and a letter has been sent to students and parents. This week's assembly was on the theme of mental health and managing stress led by Mrs Leach.

Y9 Bronze DofE Enrolment

On Friday during tutor time, Year 9 students watched a video regarding enrolling onto the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Instructions on how to sign up have been included in a letter emailed to all Year 9 parent/carers and students.

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded the Resilience, Aspiration, and Respect award. These students have been nominated by their classroom teachers:

Respect: Jamie L, Maciej F, Ben G, Victoria G, Ana G-R, Rahima E-H, Hana R, Ines D-D, Lara B and Riley B

Aspiration: Franchesca M, Ruby M, Samuel M, Zayneb B, Joshua B, George N, Jake S, Viktoria R, Sanna F and Maya F

Resilience: Beatrice M, Kamil A, Ibbi I, Isaac S, Halima E-H, Sania H, Eda H, Alisha A, Diya and Max C

A fantastic achievement. Well done all.

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr O'Leary and the Year 9 Team



Year 10

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Y10 School Reports

Parent/Carers of Year 10 students are now able to view their child's school report in the 'Documents' section of Edulink. If you have not already set up an account, you will have received an email with instructions on how to do this. A useful reminder that the school ID is: 'ava' and if you have forgotten your login details please use the 'Reset Login' link on the main page. If you have any further questions/queries, please email enquiries@theacademy.me.

Year 10 and 11 Rewards Cinema Trip - Wednesday 15th December

Chosen students have been invited to attend a cinema trip to the Funky cinema in Aylesbury to watch either of the following films: The Grinch, Home Alone, Elf. Students will have the opportunity to vote the film they would like to see - the film with the most votes will be the film the students watch. This is a great opportunity to visit an independent cinema and for the chosen students to be rewarded for their hard work, dedication, respect, aspiration, and resilience. Students who were chosen was filtered down by 100% attendance, highest achievement points and zero behaviour points. Deadline for payment on this trip is **10th December**, if your child does not want to attend, please do let us know so we can offer out the place.

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded the Resilience, Aspiration, and Respect award. These students have been nominated by their classroom teachers.

Respect: Jack R, Jake W, Scarlet-Lilly F, Dylan B and Toby L

Aspiration: James L, Saheba Z, Adrian F, Declan K and Tai W

Resilience: Hajrah N, Evelyn G, Declan K, Eira S and David A



A fantastic display of the school's core values, congratulations. Keep up the great work!

Any enquiries, please contact year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Pinker and the Year 10 Team

Year 11

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Mock Exams Next Week

It is clear that this week the Year 11 students have been anxious about the upcoming mock exams. Mock exams start **Monday 29th November** morning with Science being the first exam. Students need to arrive on time to school so they can get prepared for the mocks. These exams are important for the students as the grades they receive will be the ones they need to enter on their future pathway application forms, such as A Levels, college courses and apprenticeships. Subjects are preparing the students for the mock exams, making sure lessons have subject specific content that they will need for the mocks. All students will receive their mock results during the mock results day on **Friday 14th January**. After students receive their results Study Higher will be in to talk to the students about their future options.

Revision Guidance

Over the weekend talk to your child about the upcoming mocks. Remind them of the following:

- Revision does not need to be reading a book. All students have access to www.gcsepod.com where they can access revision podcasts.
- All students were given flash cards earlier in the week, they can use these to make revision notes. Encourage them to write 7 points about the topic on each card.
- Tell them it is OK to feel nervous about the exams.
- Remind them they need to have rest breaks as well.

- If they are feeling overwhelmed, please let Mrs Leach or Ms Freshwater know so we can support them.

Year 11 Positive Messages

I asked staff to send over some positive messages for Year 11 to help support them with their upcoming exams. I have shared these with Year 11 but wanted to share a few with you all as well:

- *Have another go. It's getting through the hardest bits of revision or an exam that will make you Do your best. No-one can ask any more than that you try to do the best that you can. Be HONEST with yourself - you know whether you are giving your best and when you are not! The Bible says that you reap what you sow - it's true! You only reap good results if you sow hard work and effort.*
- *Revise little and often rather than a marathon the day before!*
- *Remember: results do not define you as a person! Try your very best, that's all you can do! Be proud of yourselves, not only have you conquered a pandemic, but you have made it to your mock exams! That is amazing and I am truly amazed at how resilient you all are.*
- *Every time you get stuck take a deep breath and a moment the success you are destined to be.*

Work Experience

As you know we have offered two fantastic opportunities to Year 11 students over the past couple of week. Zurich, the world's largest insurance companies have offered our students a work experience scheme which ran this week.

Calling all Future Nurses and Doctors

There is also still time for our students to sign up to attend the Ward Round Live. Ward Round Live course is a LIVE, highly interactive, online experience where students are taught by an NHS Doctor to assess and speak to 'LIVE' patients from the studio ward.

Ward Round Live 2021 remaining available dates:

- Saturday 4th December 2021
- Saturday 11th December 2021

The course is suitable for 15+ who are interested in studying medicine. To read more about the course, follow the link here: <https://educationprojects.co.uk/courses/ward-round-live/>.

Prom

We are excited to announce that this year's Year 11 prom will be held on Friday 24th June at Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden. All Year 11 parents have been sent a letter via EduLink, please refer to the letter for all details.

Careers

If your child would like a careers appointment, then we can arrange this with Aviza who visit the school weekly. Student are encouraged to ask Mrs Leach to book their appointment. Also, Educational establishments are now starting to promote their open evenings/days. Make sure you look at the college or school your child wishes to attend and go and look around to make sure it is right for them.

Reward Trip

A selection of Year 11 students have been invited to the end of term Year 11 Reward trip. Letters have been sent to students who have been nominated over the term for showing respect, aspiration or resilience. We are excited to take them all to the new independent cinema in Aylesbury.

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded the Resilience, Aspiration, and Respect award. These students have been nominated by their classroom teachers.

Respect: Jake B, Halima P and Cameron J

Aspiration: Courtney B, Alex M and Poppy S

Resilience: Bradley L, Levi K and Zara B

Congratulations everyone!



Y11 Subject Profiles

An advanced notification that from next week subject profiles will be available to view on Edulink. Parent/carers will receive an email and text notification when this is available.

Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me


Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team


Year 12 & 13

Our sixth form team are developing our strengths, with the aim on expansion, and growth. As part of our development, we have designed a fresh new logo, to amplify the sixth form identity and launching us into an exciting future! Find us on social media, we have lots to share.

12&13



 • Twitter: [avasixthform](#)

 • Instagram: [avasixthform](#)

 • Facebook: [avasixthform](#)

Primary Mentoring Programme: Year 12

The following students have volunteered to participate in the Primary Mentoring Programme:

- Aaminah Khattak, Ella Salt, Jennifer Gadirova, Jessica Gadirova, Maddie Wilson, Henry Mannall, Maria Jan

This programme involves the students working with a primary class three times a week supporting and guiding them with a variety of activities including numeracy, literacy, communication, and physical well-being. The students have been fantastic role models and have encouraged and inspired so many students in such a short period of time.

Thank you for all your support