



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 31

12th November, 2021

Welcome

We are now well into the second half of the autumn term and it seems that it has suddenly become a lot colder and darker as we approach winter. We have advised our students who stay until 4:00pm for their lessons or after school clubs to take care when walking home. Please encourage your child to walk home with someone else, wherever possible, walk in well-lit areas and, if they have a mobile phone, to keep it well charged with credit. If they notice any suspicious behaviour, they can return to school, call you (obviously) or call 101 to report it.



This week was marked with the various remembrance events. The joint School Parliament from primary and Secondary, laid two wreaths donated by the Parish Council at the statue of the unknown soldier at the front of the school, while some of our students read Binyon's Ode on Remembrance.

Students also attended assemblies on the Armistice and Remembrance throughout the week which provided and insight into the sacrifices made by those who fall in war.

The whole Academy came to a halt at 11:00am on 11th November for a two minute's silence after the Last Post had been played. It was pleasing to see students join staff in the Atrium for this wearing the uniform of their various organisations: Army Cadet Force, Sea Cadets, Air Cadets and Scouts. There was a real moment of tranquillity and reflection. It epitomised Binyon's Ode on Remembrance:

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them*



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.

Gavin Gibson

Academy Principal

Boy Band Visit

On Thursday afternoon we were visited by *Here At Last*, a very popular TikTok boy band, who as well as performing, provided valuable information around staying safe on-line and mental health awareness. Some of our knew the lyrics to their songs, and it was brilliant to see them singing along. At the end of the event the group signed posters for those who wanted them.



History Heroes

The History Department is delighted to present a reward for its students where every week a History Hero is celebrated for their contribution to the subject, the progress they make and how they help others as well. This week's winner is Lacey May

Congratulations to her for her hard work in history.

History Team



Netflix

As you will know, Netflix is a subscription-based streaming service that allows users to watch TV shows and movies on any internet-enabled device that supports the software, such as smart TVs, phones and tablets. The pandemic saw a surge in children consuming on-demand content as many families relaxed their screen-time rules. Netflix's diverse range of programming caters for all age groups – so it's important for parents to recognise the potential risks of children using the service and the measures to help their child enjoy a safe streaming experience.



We have attached a guide from 'National Online Safety' who provide advice and guidance on safe internet use. In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as screen addiction, inappropriate content and hacking attempts.

Geographer of the Week

This week's Geographer of the week is Benjamin Finley for his respectfulness and helpfulness in lessons.

Well done!

Geography Team.



Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying week is week commencing 15th November. This entire week will be filled with a variety of activities for all students throughout the Academy.

The AVA Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have worked incredibly hard to plan a weeks' worth of Tutor time activities around this year's theme 'One kind word'. Students will also be attending an Assembly being delivered by PC Sharon Cann, who will be discussing the importance of not Bullying others and the impact that Bullying has on others.



The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have also planned several activities to raise money for the Anti-Bullying Alliance. On Wednesday and Thursday, they will be holding a cake and sweet sale in school, so students are encouraged to bring some change in for this.

We are also holding '**Odd Sock day**' which will take place on **Monday 15th November**. Students **MUST** be in full school uniform but are encouraged to wear 'Odd socks' for the day. This is to celebrate each and every one of us being unique. Staff will also be taking part. In return, students are being asked to donate £1, which will be donated to the Anti-Bullying Alliance at the end of the week.

Thank you for all your support and we look forward to sharing photos of the week with you on our website.

Mrs Lloyd

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium

We would like to encourage our families to apply for the Pupil Premium grant.

Further information will be sent to all parents/guardians separately. If you are eligible and qualify, not only will your child receive free school meals, but the Academy will also receive funding that can be used in a range of ways to improve the educational experiences of our children.



If you are in any doubt at all as to whether you would qualify, reach out to us. We are happy to support.

There is no need to reapply if you have done so already although, if your circumstances have changed over the last few years, again, reach out to us. If you have any questions, you can contact us using the whole school email address: enquiries@theacademy.me

Year 7

Update

Year 7s have had a very busy week, as well as continuing to read 'PAX' during Tutor Time, students have been taking part in the Rotary Shoebox Scheme. Each form has been putting together 4 Shoe boxes to send on to Romania, Moldova, and Ukraine. We are very grateful for the donations received so far and it is not too late to bring items in, your child will know what is acceptable to provide if you so wish.

7

Our Assembly this Friday focused on Remembrance. This was also recognised by the Academy on Thursday when the last post was followed by two-minute silence. It was lovely to see some of our year group in their respective cadets, scouts, and guiding uniforms.

Year 7s Involvement in Anti-Bullying Week

Next week we will be supporting the work of the Anti-Bullying Alliance, we are very lucky to have a team of students in Year 8 and above who work tirelessly raising awareness and supporting staff. There will be a range of activities during form time and an assembly delivered by our community police. I would ask that parents and carers support their children by encouraging them to wear odd schools on Monday 15th in recognition of the event and encourage the purchase of wristbands on Monday and Tuesday and/or cakes and sweets from the stall in the Atrium on Weds and Thurs next week. All proceeds will go to the Anti Bullying Alliance.

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. The following students were commended for their efforts:

Respect: Gethin A, Theo H, Riley S, Tia H, Elizabeth B, Anya -Louise S, Connor K, Keira H, James K, Lila S and Elisia G.

Aspiration: Joseph C, Christopher N, Cai W, Macy R, Harry G, Nathan H, Sam K, Hollie H, Alexandra M and Ravneet K

Resilience: Komal I, Louis Rowlett, Ollie E H, Sade A, Leonard V, Dylan W, Edward N, Breanna J, Lexi K and Phoebe L



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.

Volunteering

Lots of students have been engaged in their extra responsibilities such as School Parliament meetings, Anti-Bullying meetings, Equality club meetings, Litter picking, Librarian responsibilities and generally being very active around the school. This is lovely to see, and we are incredibly lucky to have these students in our community.

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.

Just a reminder that trainers are not part of the AVA school uniform. All students must wear black school shoes, unless students have a medical note. Please email Mrs Lloyd if you have any questions regarding this.

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: Charlotte W, Lilly L, Natasha W, Shrid B, Sayan H, Zac Sharp

Aspiration: Kyron M, Reggie B, Adam S, Euan B, Emily J, Kira M, George N

Resilience: Abdullah A, Myron A, Raph P, Finley B, Mathew H, Dylan B, Lexie N, Waqas I, Jake F, Zara P



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

9

Update

This week during tutor time has followed the pattern of numeracy and literacy with literacy activities focusing on the Read to Succeed programme.

Fridays are debate days and this week's topic was 'What beliefs are there in common between different religions?'. There was some great debate amongst the tutor groups about different religions and cultures within their tutor group

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: Alfie L, Alex B, Munashe N, Angel A, Sheza R, Victoria G, Kundhana, P Sophia D, Mia A and Abigail S

Aspiration: Annabel H, Kamil A, Kundhana P, Sophie F, Haleena P, Subhan K, Patryk W-T, Myra Z, Sienna T and Daniel F

Resilience: Eleanor G, Halima E-H, Eleanor C, Alex B, Nicole B, Manal S, Sana J, Ana G-R, Robert E and Carla P



A fantastic achievement. Well done all.

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr O'Leary and the Year 9 Team

Year 10

10

Year 10 Parents Evening

Virtual parents evening will be held on Thursday 25th November. Please sign into School Cloud to book your appointments. <https://aylesburyvaleacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

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

Chosen students will be 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.

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: Dragos, Connie, James L, George-Stefan, Hanna, Chantelle, Esther, Liaba F and Ryan D

Aspiration: Laura S, Oliwier K, Tayla, Honey, James L, Jack R, Laiba K and Tausif

Resilience: Sean P, Mark O, Elizabeth, Daisy W, Reece B, Adrian F, Emily K and Ella-Rose



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

Year 10 Business Studies Department 'Warwick Castle' Trip

Year 10 BTEC in Enterprise students have been invited to participate in a trip to Warwick Castle on Wednesday 17 November 2021. The coaches will leave school at 0900 and we anticipate that we will be back at school by 1530.

Warwick Castle will be hosting a range of workshops, tours and talks which will support the Business Studies students' understanding of the practical elements of their course, as well as a tour of the Castle and facilities. We hope to explore how Warwick Castle has turned its historical landmark into a viable business venture and will be looking at its sales and marketing strategies, the role of customer service and how they attract new and entice existing customers to visit their beautiful castle.

Thank you to all those parents/carers of Yr10 Business Studies students who returned the reply slips, supporting documentation and made the payments so promptly. It helped the process of planning a trip more manageable and it's very much appreciated.

Mrs McGowan

Any enquiries, please contact year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Pinker and the Year 10 Team

Year 11

Work Experience Opportunity

This week we have been promoting two fantastic opportunities for the Year 11 students. Zurich, the world's largest insurance companies have offered our students a truly fantastic opportunity and work experience schemes. On **Tuesday 23rd November from 5:00pm - 6:00pm** they will be hosting an Insight to the Financial Services and Insurance industry with Zurich. Students will have the opportunity to speak with some of their most senior leaders, take part in some practical hands-on workshops and ask your questions directly to key decision makers! To register for this online event, click on the following link. Please note we have very limited spaces so if you would like to secure your spot, please do book on for FREE ASAP. **Registration link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Zurich-Insight>

11

Certificates of completion will be awarded to those students in attendance where you can use this for any UCAS / job interview applications.

Medical Work Experience Opportunity

We have also offered pre-medical students the opportunity 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, including price, timings, and to book a space, students can 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. £10 deposit is due by Friday 26th November to secure your child's place.

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.

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: Stefan S, Parth J and Arif R

Aspiration: Alina M, Faiza P and Alex O

Resilience: Anna H, Matt C and Mark W



Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team

Reflectiveness Group

The students designed and decorated their face masks with felt tips this week. Their creations have been lovely to see, and they are a real credit to the school with their behaviour and how they get along.

Mrs Wright



Thank you for all your support