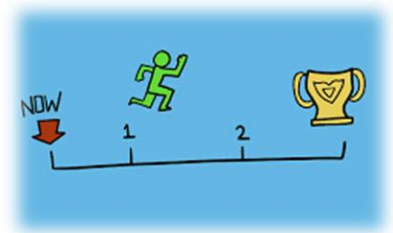


PARENT BULLETIN No. 41

4th February 2022

Welcome

As Spring finally starts to emerge we are at an exciting time for students. Year 8s will soon start the process of choosing which subjects they will study in Year 9 (see below) and Year 11s have 10 full school weeks before the first exam. This also means that some will feel anxious about these milestones, but it is important to know that there are staff at school to help with any concerns: school counsellors, members of the safeguarding team, pastoral support assistants, achievement directors, tutors and teachers. All are ready to help, advise and support. Please contact your child's pastoral team directly using the email addresses in the relevant section of the newsletter or enquiries@theacademy.me.



Have a good weekend.

Gavin Gibson

Academy Principal

History Hero

This week's History Hero is **Binta Ceesay** for demonstrating excellent reciprocation skills by helping peers and thus pushing her own aspiration. Well done from the History Team



World Challenge

Thursday 10th February is the World Challenge Parents Evening 5:30-6:30 in the Main Hall. Miss Proud and Mr Hawley are looking forward to seeing all parents and answering questions related to the trip.

AVA Second Hand Clothes Sale

We would like to host a second hand charity sale in the Main Hall on 17th February

Please donate any clothes that you no longer wear so we can raise money for the World Challenge Nepal Fund and Anthony Nolan Charity. The clothes must be:

- Clean
- Good Condition



- Adult or secondary school student size

Please leave clothes in the box in the Year 7 Pastoral office

Join Our Sixth Form

Aylesbury Vale Academy Sixth Form

AVA Sixth Form applications are now open Year 11 can apply online: <http://www.theacademy.me/sixthformcourses> If you experience any difficulties, please email avasixthform@theacademy.me If your child would like to arrange a 1:1 meeting to discuss options, please contact Mrs Sharma on psharma@theacademy.me or Mrs Marina on pmarina@theacademy.me



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 **Ethan Cashman** for going above and beyond in every lesson. Well done! Geography Team.



Performing Arts News and Events

Musical Showcase

Wednesday 9th March- 6pm 7.15pm, AVA Main Hall. An evening of music, showcasing some of our very talented music students from Year 9, 10 and 11 GCSE and BTEC students as well students from years 7 and 8. There will be a mixture of solo and duo performance work as well as larger ensemble pieces. The evening will also include some of the BTEC music students sequenced and compositional work- This is a free event, and it would be lovely to see you there to support the students.

Matilda the AVA Musical

We will be holding auditions for our July performances of Matilda Junior on the Thursday 3rd March in the Main Hall from 3-4 pm. Our Matilda trailer was released this week and has the students very excited! If your son/daughter loves to act, sing, dance or all 3, please do encourage them to audition for the show. We will be running rehearsals every Wednesday and Friday from the 10th of March from 3p-5pm and a rehearsal schedule will be sent to parents and students.

Matilda Theatre Trip

Wednesday 9th February, we will be taking 30 students from across years 7, 8 and 9 to the Cambridge Theatre to see the full production of Matilda. This will be a great opportunity to watch a professional production of the show we will be putting on in July.

Samba and African Music Workshops

Tuesday 15th February, Samba and African Music Workshops throughout the day- Pictures to follow. The Students who are attending are very excited to welcome Inspire-Works who will be hosting the event at the Academy. 90 students across different Key Stages will be involved.

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place 7-13th February 2022. This year's theme is Growing Together.

We will be encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow.



Try some of the ideas below at home:

	SWITCH OFF	Turn your phone off at bedtime	Set your phone aside when studying	Use apps that make you happy	Make an effort to connect face to face
	LEARN SOMETHING NEW	Learn a new language	Make time for your interests and passions	Learn new skills from others	Commit to set amount of time every day/week
	PRACTISE EMPATHY	Write short notes of gratitude	Treat everyone with respect	Think more, say less	Volunteer, or do community service
	LOVE MORE	Share thoughts of appreciation and love	Make an effort to contact those you don't see often	Find people that lift you up	Forgive others
	GIVE SELF CARE	Ask for help when you need it	Write a journal, or diary, every day	Share your feelings with a trusted friend or adult	Prioritise quality sleep

Year 7

Update

Year 7 have continued to plan and deliver their presentations over the past week and last Friday our first School Council Ambassador's took part in their first Assembly with older students. A special mention goes to Rupert W, Rufus M and Alexandra M who were able to deliver their section so confidently we were extremely impressed. The focus of the Assembly was plastic waste and recycling, an area the Academy is keen to address in terms of our school environment and how we take responsibility for the litter we create.

We are very pleased that we now have a team of litter pickers within the year group that has grown in number as a direct result of the assembly.

Awards and Accomplishments

This week we are very pleased to announce that four more Yr 7's have received their Silver Award gaining over 500 Achievement Points: **Emily C, Macy RR, Henley C, Elina S**

Students reaching their Bronze Award this week are: **Shanade W, Marshella B, Muhammad A, Callum R, Humaira Y, Komal I, George M, Lila S**

Breakfast with the Principal

We are very pleased to be able to present this award to Komal I and Demien B for meeting all three RAR categories since September and demonstrating a positive can do attitude when face with challenges. On the 16th of February they will join our Principal Mr Gibson for breakfast and they will receive a hardback copy of "The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse to keep as a reminder of their success.

Year 7 Football Team

The Year 7 football team played John Colet last night beating them 7-1. The boys should be very proud of their result. A huge well done to: **Freddie K, Oliver S, Alex W, Finley C, Nathan H, Carter Jn M, AJ M, Leo M, Connor M, Harry G, Carrick E and Jamil A.**

Badminton

Kaitlyn P and **Alexandra M** played their first badminton match against young ladies from the Royal Latin School this week. The girls played a great game but didn't win on this occasion. With the experience of their first match behind them we very much hope they go on to achieve success.

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Cross Country Event

On Wednesday the 2nd of February Rufus M and Alex W entered the Buckinghamshire Schools Cross Country 2022 race at Stowe School. I would like to take this opportunity to apologise to Alex and his family for reporting incorrectly last week. There were 114 competitors in their race with over 300 watching on. The race length was 2KM across rough hilly terrain, all entrants were very competitive. The race had a gun start and everyone sprinted away. Towards the end of the race they face a sharp incline which added to the excitement and drama. We are very proud of Alex coming 68th and Rufus coming 18th.



Both Alex and Rufus are keen to support peers to get involved and race with them in the future. If your child is interested in finding out more they should speak to a member of the Yr 7 Team.

Movie Night

Yr 7 have elected to watch Jumanji during their reward film night planned for the 14th of February between 15.00 and 17.00. A letter has been sent with details of the event with a link so that parents can provide their consent. There was an issue with the initial link so we would ask that parents/carers complete and submit again. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused. We would like as many students from the year group to attend so please do encourage your child/children to join us.



The event is free refreshments/popcorn will be provided. We hope to see everyone there.

Personal Property

We have had several instances where personal effects have been lost and would ask that parents encourage students not to bring in items of sentimental or monetary worth. We make every effort to locate and return items but on occasion this isn't possible.

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: Victor C, Elliott P, Ewan B, Connor S, Shannon W

Aspiration: The Year 7 Football Team

Resilience: Rufus M, Alex W, Kayden R



Well done to each and every one of you – keep up the good work

Well done all!

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Dutson and the Year 7 Team

Year 8



Update

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. The new Well-being Ambassadors have also met this week and are doing a brilliant job and planning what they would like to work on around the school.

Year 8s have also been extremely busy in Tutor time and enjoyed an Assembly this week, by Mrs Michiana, learning about the Holocaust Memorial day.

Movie Night

We are very much looking forward to our Movie night on Wednesday 9th Feb from 3pm-5pm. Students will be watching the Greatest Showman. Please complete the form sent to you via Edulink if your child would like to attend.



Options

This year, students will be taken through their 'Options Process' where they choose the qualifications that they will start studying in Year 9. More information will be sent via Edulink regarding the options process in the coming weeks.

New Year 8 Staff!

We also have some very exciting news ! Ms Mehmeti has joined the Year 8 team and will be working alongside Mrs Lloyd as the Assistant Achievement Director for Year 8.

Rewards

Well done to **Kira M** and **Harrison T** for winning a breakfast morning with Mr Gibson. These two students are quite simply amazing and deserve this treat for continuously demonstrating the school values.

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: Charlie B, Micah C, Ela H, Emily M, Ana Q

Aspiration: Scott F, Maleyeka K, Alan P, Elloenai M, Megan B

Resilience: Raphael P, Oliver W, Oscar K, Natalie S, Charlotte W



Any enquiries, please contact year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Lloyd and the Year 8 Team

Year 9

Tutor Time and Assembly

Tutor time this week has followed the pattern of numeracy and literacy with literacy activities focusing on the Read to Succeed programme.



Tutor time on Friday was the debate day, this week's topic was "**Is it ever too late to change your life?**" Each tutor group had thoughtful discussions with a number of students presenting slides to the rest of their tutor group.

This week's assembly was on the theme of History and the Holocaust this was led by Miss Michhiana

Year 9 PSHE

This week our Faraday tutor groups took part in PSHE theme lessons based on Drugs and the law. These lessons were delivered by PC Cann and her team. The rest of the tutor groups will be scheduled in for these lessons in due course.

Year 9 Rewards and Trips

- **Wednesday 16th February:**

- Movie Night – this will be offered to the whole year group but places will be subject to behaviour. A letter with all the information has been sent to all parents.

- **Thursday 24th March**

- Harry Potter Studios – this will be offered to all students who have received zero behaviour points from January to March.

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded achievement points for showing Academy values. These students have been awarded these by their classroom teachers:

Respect: Abigail S, Harrison C, Sophia D

Aspiration: Ben G, Carrick W, Rahimal

Resilience: Dillon E, Ruby M, Mya Ruby LL

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr O'Leary and the Year 9 Team

Year 10

Academy Values Awards

Well done to the students below who have been awarded the Resilience, Aspiration, and Respect award. These students have been given achievement points for their attendance and their representation on the theatre trip to watch 'Groan Ups' in The Waterside Theatre on Wednesday 26th January. These students alongside the year 11s represented the school fantastically. The production was extremely funny.

Isa A
Bethany S
Tamara O
Kayleigh E
Cassius D
Jenna H

Ipsha S
Olly S
Lilly B
Jade C
Jake W
Katie J

Lucy C
Kajus A
Kendra A
Honey F
Ruby I
Jasmine H

Olivia B
Elizabeth D
Blessing A
Hermione S
Samantha D

Movie afternoon

As part of this terms reward incentives, we are offering the Year 10 students a movie night in the school hall. Thursday 10th February 3-5pm Year 10 students are invited to watch a film of their choice for free. To complement the evening, we will be offering them a bag of popcorn, candy floss and a drink.

The most popular film choice was..... Black Panther.



If your child would like to attend and you give them permission, please check your emails from dcollins@theacademy.me and complete the MS form via the link in the letter attached to the email. The deadline for this is the **8th of February**.

Study Higher

Last week students were picked at random to participate in 1on1 sessions with an external member from Study Higher to discuss their aspirations and future endeavours. The final 1on1s will be next week (WC 7th February). On Friday 4th February these students will participate in group sessions.



The sessions will be led by David Colwill from the Uni of Oxford.

Students will be involved in a fun and interactive workshop as they learn about building confidence and key academic skills in critical thinking, creative ideation, structured responses, and presentation skills.

PE Fixtures

Well done to the Year 10 students who represented the school in a badminton fixture against Royal Latin. These students are: **Hajra A Sabah Xander James W Katie T Aman A Jamie Ch Zorah B**
A shout out to **Xander** who won his singles match. Well done!

Any enquiries, please contact year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Pinker and the Year 10 Team

Year 11



Year 11 Kindness

We all know that a lot of people suffer from the "January blues" so last week the Year 11 team decided to challenge this by sending out some positive messages to our Year 11 students, sent by their peers. It was lovely to read the messages of kindness to one another. Here are a couple of examples:

- *"Lily, we've been through ups and downs but the fact that we've made it through shows the friendship and the sisterhood that we have."*
- *"Aiden, I am giving him a shoutout because through all of his struggles, he always does his best and is truly aspirational and he deserves lots as he is also a great friend"*
- *"Jasmine, Thank you for always being there for me, I appreciate it immensely."*
- *"Jacob, very nice and helpful person. Also a kind person to be around."*
- *"Kayleigh, Thank you for supporting me with homework and school work, even when your busy revising you will always stop to help me"*

"Alex, keep it going brother, don't give up, don't stress because you can do it, you got it!"

Rewards

This week we rewarded all students in Year 11 with zero behaviour points £1.50 to their Parent Pay account to use in the school canteen.

Leavers Hoodies

Leavers Hoodies are now available to order. Please click the link to order your child's hoodie <https://p1schoolwear.co.uk/shop/aylesbury-vale-academy/ava-girls/aylesbury-vale-acadamey-year-11-leavers-hoodies/>. Hoodies will be given out at the Leavers Assembly in June.



National Citizenship Service

On Friday Year 11 students had an assembly by NCS to launch an exciting summer opportunity for our students.

NCS is a nationally recognized government initiative for those aged 16-17 which takes place during the summer. It's a great way for young people to learn the skills for work and life they need to succeed in the future, whilst having an amazing time. The two week experience costs the government £1200 per young person that participates, however you only have to pay a maximum of £50. The programme is only available for students in Year 11 or Year 12; over 95% of students taking part in the programme are Year 11 due to their extended summer holidays. Each year we have over 3000 Hampshire students taking part in the programme with 100,000 doing it on a national scale including many of the schools previous students.

What happens on NCS?



- **BE EPIC** In the first week, young people will live away from home and nurture their adventurous side. Whether they take on the high ropes, wild waves, or scale a wall, one thing we can guarantee is, by Friday night they'll feel fearless (and pretty worn out)! Don't worry, you'll have the weekend back home to catch your breath.
- **LIVE LIFE NEW** for 2022, phase 1 and 2 will take place in the first week! During this first week of residential young people will also have the chance to take part in some workshops. They will get a crash course in adulting and pick up skills to setting them up for life. By the time they're done, they will be speaking to a room full of people without freezing up and know a whole load more about what they want from life after school.
- **DO GOOD** Fuelled by the first week, young people will be back living at home and will have the opportunity to use their voice and have a lasting impact. They will meet their team every day at a local site to plan and deliver an impressive 'passion project'— we can't wait to see they achieve as a team. Young people get the chance to put all the skills and experiences developed in phases 1 and 2 into practice as a team, agreeing on a social action project that will make a difference to their local area.
- **GO PARTY** Ok, so this is a VIPOYE (Very Important part of Your Experience), naturally. By this point, you'll have achieved A LOT. Now it's time to be recognised. You've got to go out with a bang, right?

When can we take part in NCS?

Each programme will run for two weeks, Monday to Friday, depending on which of the start dates you choose from. Start dates will be released by the start of January when the website goes live to sign up.

Start your amazing journey:

Applications for NCS are now open and selling fast! Places are limited and are given on a first come first serve basis. You can visit <https://wearencs.com/sign-up-to-ncs> for more information about the programme and to sign up. We highly recommend this unique and valuable opportunity and hope you will encourage your child to take part

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: Poppy Megan Fawaz

Aspiration: Akindu Millie Isabella

Resilience: Emma Oliver Mia



Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team

Year 12 & 13

12/13

The Year 12 Creative Digital Media Production students are launching their 'Academic Public Relations' (APR) club to support the school with various in-house PR and Media projects.

We are in the process of recruiting 5 aspirational students across the academy to join the team.

We are looking for reliable students who have a keen interest in Creative and Digital Media. An opportunity to develop filming, editing and photography skills.

If your child would like to apply, please ask them to check their e mail. Interviews will be held on Tuesday lunch time in C0202.



Thank you for all your support