



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 34

3rd December, 2021

Welcome

As we move quickly into Christmas, the school is as busy as ever. Despite the stories of a rise in cases in schools nationally and a new variant, I am pleased to say that we have **only five cases** across the whole of Primary and Secondary (1749 students) which is 0.2% of students. Of course, we cannot be complacent and we must still take precautions. Therefore, can I urge parents to:

- Make sure your child has a face mask at school every day (exempt students have been issued with exemption cards).
- Test using the Lateral Flow Tests issued by the school twice weekly.
- Consider a vaccine for your child, I have attached a letter from Buckinghamshire Health about how this can be achieved.

On a more positive note, some of you will have seen our new production of **'Monster Calls'** performed by our students. If you haven't yet seen it and read this bulletin on Friday afternoon, the **final performance is Friday 3rd December at 7pm. Tickets on the door.** It is brilliantly acted and extremely thought provoking.

Do You Read the Parent Bulletin?

I am still 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

Free eResources available from Buckinghamshire Libraries

With the Christmas holidays approaching and time to fill Parents and Carers may be interested to know that they and their children can sign up to the Buckinghamshire Public Library service for free and access their free eBooks, newspapers, eMagazines and eAudiobooks on any mobile device, eReader, laptop or PC. Children over the age of 13 can register for themselves whilst those that are younger will need an adult to set up their account. Further details are available at www.Buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries.



New Parent Pay Shop

We are pleased to be launching over the next few days our new 'Parent Pay Shop'. This will make easier to purchase items such as revision guides as well as giving more detail on each item. A link will 'pop up' to take you to this when you log in to Parent Pay as present, and a link will also be provided direct from our website. We are confident this will make it easier to locate and purchase the items you require.



Food Parcels

Aylesbury based charity, The Vineyard in Gatehouse Close, Aylesbury, HP19 8DN have food parcels available. These are adapted for each individual family. Opening hours are:

- Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

If you wish to call prior to visiting, their contact number is 01296 424400".



Physical Education Update

Girls Football Tournament: John Colet

The girls attended another tournament this evening at John Colet playing against the hosts and Tring School. AVA showed fantastic resilience playing in the rain and cold temperatures. Team captains: Ela H and Halima E-H, showed fantastic leadership from both captains, leading their teams into a variety of games with mixed score lines



Boys Rugby

Year 8 boys played a round robin tournament at the next phase academy session on Wednesday and managed to win 2 out of 3 games they played. For their first time playing proper matches I was so impressed with how they played and worked as a team

Ms Fuller, Curriculum Leader, PE



History Heroes

This week's History Hero is **Emily Mudd** in Year 10. She has worked very hard to make really good progress in Year 10 and is well on course to achieve her target. Congratulations to her for her 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 **Jake Foster** for working hard in every lesson and being a role model for other in the class - well done!

Geography Team.



Year 7

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Update

On Friday 19th of November, we welcomed our Community Police Liaison Officer to our Assembly to round off our Anti-Bullying Week. The students experienced a very informative talk on how bullying presents, the forms it can take and how to seek help. We very much hope this event empowered our Year 7s to speak out, they are regularly reminded how they can report bullying of any kind to us safe in the knowledge that we will work with them through restorative processes. If you have a concern in relation to your child, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Assembly

Last Friday, Mrs Leach our Assistant Principal led the Assembly on Mental Health Awareness which included advice on how our actions can impact on the emotional well-being on those around us. The importance of treating others as we wish to be treated ourselves and how to seek help if we are personally affected or have a friend we are concerned about.

Nepal Fundraising Events

At the end of this week continuing into next our older students who are planning to go to Nepal will be hosting two further fundraising events in addition to the Christmas Film Show will be Guess the Chocolates in the Jar - 50p per go and an Amazon Voucher Raffle to win a £50 voucher. Single raffle tickets will be £2 and a strip of tickets will be £5. We urge our younger students to get involved as it would be hoped that in future years, they will be raising money to support trips of their own.

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.



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: Ollie E H, Freddy K, Nathan H,

Aspiration: Fabio A, Riley C, Sunya D, Theo H, Jasmin J, Hanifa S

Resilience: Kai G,



This week we are really pleased to award the following Year 7s for gaining their Bronze Award for reaching a total of 250 Achievement Points. Student will receive both a certificate and a bronze pin badge: **Julia B, Emily C, Alex J, Anya Louise S, Muhammad N, Sofia B**

Brilliant - well done to you all.

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Dutson and the Year 7 Team

Year 8

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Update

Year 8s have had a fantastic week this week. They have enjoyed discussing the importance of charity work in form time and learning about prevent in the weekly Assembly, led by Ms Gibbs.

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.

Year 8 PGL: Friday 10th- Sunday 12th December

With only 1 week until the Year 8 PGL residential trip, just a reminder that students need to be in the Sports Hall for 8:00am on Friday 10th December. Students and parents should be using the kit list provided and ensuring it is in a travel bag, not a suitcase. All medications need to be put into a clear bag with the child's name on it and given to Miss Fuller on arrival. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me: Lfuller@theacademy.me



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: - Euan B, Shrid B Harry R

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

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

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, saw the return of debate day, this week's topic was "What did VotesforCOP26 achieve?". There were some great debates held during tutor time.

During tutor time on Tuesday, students have started to look at making presentations. Making class presentations is an effective way for students to build communications skills and self esteem. The theme for the presentations will be charity and fundraising. Tutor groups have got themselves into groups of 4/5 and will be delivering their presentations to their tutor group next week.



Y9 Bronze DofE Enrolment

There is still time to enrol 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: Sana B, Sana J, Sanna F, Shannon H, Ellie M, Niran R, Aidan S and Callum W

Aspiration: Cameron B, Zubayda H, Abigail H, Annabel H, Zainab K, Janhavi K, Kundhana P and Malaika Q

Resilience: Angel A, Riley B, Yvonne C, Sophia D, Ocean J, Jamie L, Viktoria R and Myra Z,



55 students from Year 9 were also nominated in the recent autumn awards celebration. Students were awarded certificates for Respect, Aspiration and Resilience for individual subjects.

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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Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening - 25th November 2021

Thank you to all the parents and students who attended the virtual parents evening, we appreciate all your support. Leading on from parents evening, if you have any further questions, please do contact the year 10 team.

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 to another student.

Year 10 vs Year 11 Christmas Quiz

To celebrate this half-term year 10 students will compete against the year 11 students in a Christmas quiz hosted by Miss Pinker and Miss Leach on a live MS Teams call. Students will be given a series of rounds and the form/year group with the most correct answers will win. The categories for the quiz are:



1. **Guess the teacher from their baby photo**
2. **Guess the Christmas emoji phrase**
3. **Guess the logo**
4. **Escape room** - where they will need to crack a code to 'leave' the classroom. First form to escape their class wins.

This will be on days in the last week of half-term (WB 13th December).

A Monster Calls Production

Congratulations to the year 10 students who are performing in the Drama production this week. Not a dry eye in the room was the feedback I have received which shows the determination and quality of acting in the play. We are proud of all the students involved in this production.

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: Kendra, Kajus A, Daijon B, Emily N, Eduard F, Anayah A, Hajrah A, Jamela, Arif, Lily-May M and Jenna T

Aspiration: Olimpia, Lily W, Emily M, Cassius D, Alex C, Mark O, Katie K, Laiba K, Kajus G and Tobias T

Resilience: Aleks P, Charlie S-S, Emily K, Amber D, Emma Mc-H, Thomas D, Saheba Z, Ella-Rose C, Angel G and Adrian F



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

Year 11 have completed their first full week of mock exams. I have been impressed with students' revision notes - the revision cards that we gave out last week have been a success and it is nice to see students using the cards. Naturally students are anxious about the mocks, we are supporting them throughout the day with their anxiety but if you feel your child needs more support, please let us know. 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.

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.qcsepod.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.

Medicine and Dentistry Opportunities

King's College, London is offering our students a **free** online Media and Dentistry lecture series. Over the course of the 13 lecture programme students will hear from speakers working in varied specialities and at different career stages in healthcare. Last year's lectures included topics such as cardiology, prosthodontics, renal transplant, as well as the medical student experience. The lecture series is designed to give students an understanding of the range of opportunities in medicine and dentistry and the realities of being a healthcare professional.

Students will also learn about the different elements of the application process, such as the UCAT, personal statements, and interviews.

Lectures will be held on Tuesday evenings at 6-7.15pm and will run in blocks of three throughout 2022. The first three lectures will take place on the 1st February, 8th February, and 15th February. The remaining three blocks of lectures will take place in Spring and Summer.

For more information and to apply, [students should follow this link](#). The deadline to apply is **Friday 10th December 2021**

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, 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.

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: Lily T, Tegan D and Ezmea Y

Aspiration: Lilia K, Ella G and Zara B

Resilience: Brandon U, Amy W and Emma H

Congratulations everyone!

Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team

Year 12 & 13

Car Wash

During the afternoon of Wednesday 1st December, some of our Yr12 YE FitKit Team organised and ran their first staff car wash to raise much needed funds for their new business venture. They had a good response from staff to wash their cars and they had fun whilst enjoying the whole process too!

Thank you to those staff who supported this fundraising event and more importantly for trusting us with your cars! Here's to the next one!

Young Enterprise E FitKit Order Form

EFitKit are now up and running and are ready to sell their fabulous kit bags to the general public. These kit bags contain a water bottle, a towel, a skipping rope, a resistance band and 5x training cones. They will be attending their first public face-to-face selling opportunity in **Aylesbury's Market Square on Sunday 5 Dec from 10:30-3pm** if you'd like to see what it is that they have launched.

In the meantime, should you wish to purchase one of these multi-purpose fitness/exercise bags, then please click on the link below and we'll be delighted to deal with you and your order:

[E FIT KIT ORDER FORM](#)

Thank you for all your support



12&13

