



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 76

20th January 2023

Welcome...

This bulletin is one of the highlights of my week.

I get to read about the all opportunities that our students are involved in, such as sports fixtures, art competitions and trips to Berlin.

I am really proud of the wide range of enrichment opportunities we are able to offer.

The education system in this country puts a lot of emphasis on examination results but what is equally important, if not more so, is what we call 'cultural capital'; all the experiences that you have collected in your life.

It is not just exam results which improves life chances, it is also the clubs, the trips, the books you read, the films you watch, and so much more.

Please encourage your child to take full advantage of all the opportunities on offer at AVA.

Have a good weekend,

Gavin Gibson
Academy Principal



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](#)



Strike Action

As you will have read in the press, the National Education Union (NEU) are planning a series of strikes across the UK in the next two months. The first dates that this could affect AVA are **Wednesday 1 February** and **Wednesday 1 March**.

If a pay deal has still not met by this time, the NEU will launch further strikes on **Wednesday 15 March** and **Thursday 16 March**.

At present it is not clear how much this will affect the school. However, once we know more we will be able to confirm with parents.

Parent View

Thank you to those of you who have responded to our Parent View survey. You can still respond [here](#).

Parent View

Community Bookcase

If you're passing the school come and have a look at our 'Community Bookcase' which is located in reception. You're welcome to take a book for your leisure, or donate some books to the bookcase.

Lost Property



Our Sixth Form ensure all named lost property is returned to students via their year group pastoral team, however we currently have a large amount of unnamed clothing outstanding. If your child has an item of lost clothing, please ask them to check the lost property cupboard situated outside of the Sports Hall.

Any lost property not claimed at the end of each term will be taken to be re-cycled or donated to charity.

GCSE History Berlin Trip

There will be a pre-trip Presentation Evening for parents and carers on **Monday 23 January** from 6pm –



7pm. Details of the event were emailed to parents and carers last week; please refer to your child's class Teams page if you did not receive this.

Passports should be handed in for safe-keeping to Mrs Michhiana by **Monday 23 January**. Itineraries will be issued by this date. Students must arrive on school site by 5:00am on **Wednesday 1 February** to depart for London Gatwick Airport.

Final payment is now overdue so if you have overlooked this, please make payment ASAP.

Subject Superstar

This week's **History Hero** is **Elliot P** in Year 8 for always selflessly offering to hand out books, tidy the class, and consistently work to the best of her ability.



Art Department

Year 11 have submitted their Art coursework and were issued their exam question last week.

They are now working on their preparation sketchbooks for this project, which must be submitted at the beginning of the final 10-hour exam.

Information about what work needs to be included in the sketchbook is attached.



PE News

Students of the Month

A huge 'congratulations' to the following students who were selected for being PE Students of the Month for December: **Ben B**, **Maisie W**, **Jessica W**, **Jack R**, and **Taylor F**

Their **Respect**, **Aspiration** and **Resilience** was praised by members of the PE team - well done everyone!



Spectators at fixtures at AVA

Because the AVA school day is extended until 4pm, and with some students still on site until 5pm, **we are unable to allow spectators at any home PE fixtures.**

This is because all visitors to the school must be signed in and escorted around the school to ensure our children are effectively safeguarded at all times. Unfortunately we do not have the staffing capacity to manage this for fixtures.

Fixtures

We have a number of football, basketball and netball fixtures coming up over the next few weeks. We will keep you updated with the scores of these.

This week we had football fixtures against AGS and basketball fixtures against St. Micahel's. All students involved played extremely well and represented the school exceptionally. Our students continue to build their **aspiration**, competing against some excellent opponents from other schools.

PE Kit

Please can we make you aware of some rules for PE kit, especially with the cold weather creeping back. Hoodies **are not** permitted in school, and so **are not** allowed to be worn as part of student's PE kit. Please ensure your child has a jacket to wear, or a specific PE training top **without** a hood. The jacket should not be their coat that they wear to school.

Flu jabs for Years 7, 8 and 9

The School Immunisation Team are visiting AVA on Monday 23 January to vaccinate children in Year 7 to Year 9 who have not one dose of flu vaccine during this period.

If you would like your child vaccinated and have not already done so, please complete the consent form [here](#), using the School Code **EE135879**.

The vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against flu, which can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications.

The **free** intra-nasal flu vaccine is the most effective protection for your child against flu. However, if in the past you have refused the intra-nasal vaccine due to porcine gelatine content, we are now able to offer an alternative injectable flu vaccine which is porcine-free.

Protect yourself against flu

[Flu immunisation in England](#)

Information for those in secondary school



HPV Immunisations for Year 8

The school immunisation team will be visiting school on **Monday 23 January** to deliver the HPV Immunisation programme to Year 8 pupils.

All parents must complete a form giving their consent or indicating the reason for declining as soon as possible. Details about how to complete this form have been emailed to parents and carers, so please check emails and junk mail for email sent this week with links to the online consent. The letter is also attached to this Bulletin. AVA's School Code EE135879, and the deadline for completing the form is Friday 20 January 2023.

Careers

Currently we are busy with a lot of careers activities, especially in Year 8 as they start to think about their options.

Our Year 8 learners are completing a series of worksheets during form time in preparation, and will be supported with a series of Curriculum Leader talks and their use of UNIFROG to support their decisions.

Please encourage your child to complete the Unifrog application or on their website. If learners cannot remember their login details, please contact Mrs Marina at pmarina@theacademy.me

Our year 10 learners are in the process of organising work experience for themselves and are beavering away with all the requirements, if any learner or parent would like support, please contact Mrs Marina at pmarina@theacademy.me

Ask Me Anything: Apprenticeships

If you're thinking about applying for an Apprenticeship, want to learn more about your options, or have any questions at all about your future, these weekly sessions are where you need to be!

They are run by Max, and Outreach and Student Support expert at Pathway CTM. He has years of experience in guiding people through applications, interviews, CVs and cover letters, so you will be getting some of the best support out there.

Any student with questions about their options, specific applications, or anything else regarding their future, can join.

Please note that you do not need to stay on this session for the full hour. You're welcome to listen in, or come just to get your question answered.

[Sign up now](#) to get all your questions answered!





Mrs Weedon says... It's been another great week for Year 7, who have settled back well into academy life after the Christmas break.

It has been amazing to see so many students getting achievement points for excellent classwork and participation in lessons.

We also have 112 students who have 0 behaviour points, which shows how fantastic they have all been! We enjoy praising all our students who are doing the right thing and celebrating all their achievements. Keep up the hard work, Year 7!

This week in tutor time Year 7 continued with numeracy and their personal development booklets. This is in addition to looking at the Word of the Week, where they get achievement points if they can use the word in a sentence throughout the day. They also completed part of their career's booklet, look at the skills they want to improve for future job prospects.

This week's community assembly was on traits that universities look for in candidates and how we can develop those at school. These include being passionate, hard-working, and resilient, which links with our own school values.

Students must make sure to write their timetables in their planners, so they have a spare copy if they lose it or have left it at home.

It is very important that all students arrive to lessons on time to make a prompt start to their learning. PE kit must be brought in when they have PE lessons.



Dates for you Diaries:

W/C Monday 27 February Bring a Parent to School Day. Please remember to return your slips if you can come in.

Thursday 4 May Parents' Evening

Year 7 Academy Values Awards

respect

Afia M
Oliver C
Aleena A
Lucas B
Alfie J
Rhylee H

aspiration

Lorenzo C
Liam F
Hammad H
Emily B
Angie S

resilience

Doae J
Aeshah M
Cameron S
Sophia B
Roxanne B

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

1. Faraday 1
2. Nobel 3 & Faraday 2

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Miley O
2. Megan P
3. Harrison S

Form Attendance (%):

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

Honourable Mentions:

Bella H for her resilience and settling so well in Year 7.

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Weedon and the Year 7 Team



Ms Dutson says... Year 8 have had a very productive week and have settled back into Academy routines. We are really pleased to see our students striving to meet our expectations, and to report that the new detention systems are imbedding positively. We would like to thank our parents and carers for their on-going support of our systems.

This week two of our Year 8 students, **Macy** and **Niamh**, were interviewed by Bucks Radio after winning their bid to represent

Aylesbury Cheer Leading Academy at the Summit World Championships in Florida in April. The girls have all been busy fundraising, and we are hoping to run a cake sale on the 9th of February to support them with this. You can find out more [here](#).

HPV immunisations will be taking place on Monday 23rd of January. Please could you ensure the following if you child is being immunised:

- Have breakfast
- Bring in water and a snack
- Where possible wear a short-sleeved shirt so the upper arm can easily be accessed.

Your child will be asked if they would like to take part in an Irish Dance Workshop in March to celebrate St Patrick's Day. If numbers allow, the cost per student will be £5.

Our **Options Evening** will take place on the **Thursday 2 March**, the event will offer our students and their parents and carers the opportunity to explore the subjects on offer and ask questions of our subject teachers and careers specialists who will also be in attendance.

On Monday the Year 8 Assembly welcomed nurses from the School Nursing Service who gave an informative presentation on the reasons and importance of inoculations to protect the community. It is hoped that the information given will have answered many of the questions our students may have in relation to the planned HPV immunisations on Monday.

On Wednesday our Community Assembly had a focus on the skills needed or demonstrated by students to access further education. Students explored the required attributes alongside our Academy Values and how meeting these linked into and promoted a student's development to raise their aspirations. The delivery was thought provoking and we thank Miss Hamner for her clear and motivational delivery.



Year 8 Academy Values Awards

respect

aspiration

resilience

Riley S
Ryan V-A
Jamil A
Teshnavi A
Ethan B

Elina S
Ellie R
Lily P
Poppy P
Harry M

Chantelle W
Jack B
Emily C
Summer E
Lucia F

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

Nobel 2

Form Attendance (%):

1. **Nobel 1**
2. **Nobel 2**
3. **Nobel 3**

Individual Achievement Points:

1. **Shalom M**
2. **Mia N**
3. **Crow H**

Honourable Mentions:

Niamh H & Macy R-R for their cheerleading success and fund-raising plans

Any enquiries, please contact year8enquiries@theacademy.me

Ms Dutson and the Year 8 Team



Mr Hawley says... This week has gone great. Thanks to everyone who came to the year 9 movie night and gave money to world challenge. Well done to the World Challenge students for selling their wares. Thank you to Ms Hanmer for her lovely assemblies on values and the value of RS. Big thank you for the students who helped out for the World Challenge treats sale and a big thank you for those who bought from us, this will really help us in our conservation efforts.

Big well done to everyone at awards evening last week we are really proud.

P6 changes have come about and people asking to change have been in high demand. I am doing my best to accommodate everyone as quickly as I can. Bear with me.

The tutor programme is shown below:

Tutor time	
Monday	Soft skills/careers booklet
Tuesday	Community Assembly
Wednesday	English booklets/math's
Thursday	Rewards assembly
Friday	Friday Fun teambuilding



Year 9 Academy Values Awards

respect

Ash M for always helping out the history department in her spare time.

aspiration

Albert G for his recent rugby trials. I hope you showed everyone that AVA resilience!

resilience

Harvey R for an outstanding start to the term, receiving a reward of some sort every day.

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Form Attendance (%):

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

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Haider A
2. Ella H
3. Megan W

Honourable Mentions:

Haider A, Jessica W and Alan T

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr Hawley and the Year 9 Team



Mr O'Leary says... The Year 10s have settled back into lessons and have started their new period 6s.

Following on from last week's assembly about work experience, the students have been given a couple of deadlines. They need to secure a work experience placement by **Monday 20 February** and complete their placement tool on Unifrog by **Wednesday 22 February**. If any students need any support, please ask them to speak to Mr O'Leary, Miss Porter or Mrs Marina.

During tutor time, Year 10 have been looking more closely at careers, focussing on different levels of apprenticeships. We have also managed to secure further Study Higher mentoring sessions for the year group, which will run until April.

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Assemblies are on Tuesday and Friday, students are the main hall for assemblies, they need to line up in the main hall in their tutor groups.

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



PE Lunch Club Timetable	
Monday	Gym (ORO/MLO)
Tuesday	Futsal (NWK/ORO)
Wednesday	Gym (KMO)
Thursday	Basketball (JSM)
Friday	Gym (KMO)

Tutor time	
Monday	Careers – Lesson 13
Tuesday	Weekly Quiz – Current Events
Wednesday	Numeracy – Week 2 – Bronze/Silver/Gold Activity
Thursday	Literacy – Word of the Week
Friday	Youth Social Action assembly – Mrs Blake-Huggins

Dates for you Diaries:

W/C Monday 24 April Work Experience week. Letters have been sent by EduLink, and student have received paper copies.

Year 10 Academy Values Awards

respect

Francesca A
Khadija A
Angel A
Kashaf
Shayden A
Lauren B
Sana B
Zayneb B
Morgan B
Binta C
Theo D
Ines D-D

aspiration

Halima E- H
Robert E
Sanna F
Taylor F
Amel H
Hamza H
Ibbi I
Kayla J
Hannah J
David K
Musa K
Subhan K

resilience

Yahya K
Alice K
Lloyd L
Ruby Mc
Alex M
Maya M
Krystain N
Sienna Pr
Marco R
Sheza R
Keert S
Flynn S

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Form Attendance (%):

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

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Eleanor C
2. Isabella B
3. Samuel M

Honourable Mentions:

Akisharra J, **George N** and **Beatrice M** for always demonstrating the AVA values

Any enquiries, please contact year10enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr O'Leary and the Year 10 Team



Mrs Leach says... Year 11 received their mock results yesterday during the Mock Results Day Assembly. There was an air of excitement and nerves during the morning, and the students' are now looking forward to the Summer exams. Year 11 have just 15 weeks until the exam season starts, and 10 weeks until the Art exam. That's just 83 lessons. **Every lesson counts.**

It was lovely to see all the Year 11 students at the Awards Evening last night. I wanted to highlight the student who was awarded the Year 11 award for Resilience. **Lia M** started our school back in November and has displayed resilience since the day she began. Congratulations **Lia** for your hard work, keep going.

During the assembly this week we talked about the qualities Oxford University look for within their students:

Enthusiasm • Positivity • Curiosity • Hard working • Determination • Self-motivation

We believe that AVA values of **Respect**, **Aspiration** and **Resilience** compliment these qualities, and Year 11 should be aspiring to achieve the best they can.

Year 11 Revision Evening

We appreciate that as the exam session approaches you may feel like you want to know how to support your child, and so we would like to invite you and your child to our Year 11 Revision Evening on **Thursday 9 March**, from 6pm to 7.30pm.

The aim of the session is to give guidance to you and your child in planning their revision and using revision strategies in preparation for the summer exam period

The session will cover topics such as:

- Revision strategies.
- Supporting your child with different techniques and approaches to revision time.
- Advice on how to support your child organise their revision time.
- Ensuring your child has the right equipment.

During the evening there will also be subject specialists on hand to support with revision. Research has proven that supportive parents can make a difference at this crucial time.



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- ✓ BTEC National Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative Digital Media
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#AVASIXTHFORM

The Aylesbury Vale Academy
RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

2023 Prospectus and Careers Pathways now available online

Applications open 30th January 2023



www.theacademy.me/sixthformcourses

STRONG • SUCCESSFUL • SUPPORTIVE

A message from Mrs Sharma, 6th Form Achievement Director:

Looking ahead at September 2023, our new prospectus is available on our website, please do contact us if you require any clarification. Our applications will be open from the 30th of January.

Year 11 Prom

Prom payment is now open on Parent Pay. You can pay for the Prom ticket in instalments or in full. A £10 deposit is required to secure your child's place. 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 Leavers Hoodies

We are excited to announce that Leavers Hoodies are available to order now via the PL Schoolwear website: www.plschoolwear.co.uk

Once on the website, click Aylesbury Vale Academy School Uniform. You will then see the Leavers Hoodies and can select the size, colour and add the name you would like printed on the back. Colours to choose from are: Navy, black, green, purple, grey, pink. Hoodies cost £24.50 and will be available for students at the Leavers Assembly in May.

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](#).



Dates for you Diaries

Tuesday 24 January - Year 11 English Literature exam

Monday 30 January - Year 11 BTEC Health & Social Care exam, 12:30pm - 4pm

Tuesday 31 January - Year 11 BTEC Enterprise exam, 12:30pm - 4pm

Wednesday 1 February - Year 11 BTEC ICT exam, 8:30am - 10:15am

Friday 3 February - Year 11 Engineering exam, 8:30am - 10:45am

Thursday 9 March - Year 11 Revision Evening, 6pm - 7.30pm

Year 11 Academy Values Awards

respect

Zainab B
Mohammed M
Zora B

aspiration

Ruby I
Katie T
Emily M

resilience

Tayla D
Connie M
Rukiah K

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Form Attendance (%):

1. Franklin 2
2. Faraday 2
3. Franklin 1

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Connie M
2. Tegan H
3. Elanas B

Honourable Mentions:

1. Kendra A
2. Dylan B
3. Elanas B

Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team



Mrs Sharma says... The 6th form is having a busy term with the Year 12s and 13s sitting their BTEC exams. They have been exhibiting very mature and responsible learning behaviours. The common room is full most days with 6th formers independently preparing for their exams, and some preferring to work in small groups.

Year 13 are completing their UCAS applications, ensuring that their personal statements are impressive and their University choices give them the best chances for the next stage of their education and their lives.

Any enquiries, please contact post16enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Sharma and the 6th Form Team

Thank you for all your support