



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 74

6th January 2023

Welcome back...

I hope you managed to have a restful break with your families over the Christmas period. It was a pleasure to welcome our students back yesterday after the holiday and all year groups attended an assembly about the Spring Term being a new start and the opportunity for all students to be 'a better you.' Students were left with the (slightly adapted) statement from Rita Pierson:

"I am somebody. I was somebody when I came to AVA but I am going to be a better somebody when I leave."

We are so aspirational for our students and look forward to all of their successes.

A number of parents have mentioned the fact that we have had a large number of cover staff and external supply staff covering lesson before Christmas. Unfortunately, we had a higher than average level of staff absence. Sadly, this is true of the vast majority of schools nationally at present. We have an internal team of cover supervisors employed full time by the Academy who know our school, our systems and the students. They work extremely hard during periods of staff absence. We also have to rely on external supply staff from time to time. Several schools in Bucks were forced to close entirely or in part during the Autumn Term, but I am proud to say that, despite the challenges, AVA remained open to all students which, I am sure you will agree, is preferable to having students at home.

This week's bulletin is shorter than average due to the length of the week, and a full bulletin will be published on **Friday 13th January**.

Have good weekend.

Gavin Gibson
Academy Principal

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Year 11: year11enquiries@theacademy.me

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Key Links:

[Secondary website](#)

[Parents' evenings](#)

[EduLink One](#)

[Trips/Lunch money](#)



Key Dates - Spring Term 2023



Wednesday 11th – Adviza Webinar – [Choosing GCSE Options](#)

Thursday 12th – Year 11 BTEC Music exam

Thursday 12th – Awards Evening. Invitations have been sent; please RSVP if you are attending.

Thursday 19th – Year 11 Mock Results (morning), and Year 11 Online Parents' Evening

Monday 23rd – GCSE History trip to Berlin Pre-Tour Presentation Evening

Tuesday 24th – Year 8 & 9 French movie night

Thursday 26th – Year 8 & 9 Spanish movie night

Friday 27th – Year 10 Spanish and French students' Trip to Oxford Brookes University

Monday 30th – Year 11 BTEC Health & Social Care exam

Tuesday 31st – Year 11 BTEC Enterprise exam



Wednesday 1st – Year 11 BTEC ICT exam

Friday 3rd – Year 11 BTEC Engineering exam

W/C Monday 6th – National Apprenticeship Week

W/C Monday 27th – Year 7 Bring a Parent to School Day

Monday 27th – Year 9 Spanish and French students' Trip to the University of Oxford



Thursday 2nd – Year 8 Options Evening

Wednesday 29th – Saturday 1st April – Spanish trip to Andalucia for Spanish students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11.



Thursday 20th – AVA Careers Fair

W/C Monday 24th – Year 10 Work Experience Week

Parent View Survey

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

Home School Agreement

We are working hard to ensure that parents and carers are fully involved in their child's education, and that each child fully understands their own role in promoting a culture that centres around their learning, focusing on our three key values of **Respect**, **Aspiration** and **Resilience**

The Home School Agreement (attached) underlines the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of students, parents and the School. Once you have read the Agreement, please complete [this short Microsoft Form](#) to confirm you understand and agree to uphold the expectations it outlines.