

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN No. 67

4th November 2022

Welcome...

I hope you had a good half term with your families.

We are now back in to the second half term of the year and, as one student reminded me this morning, it's only 52 'get-ups' until Christmas! Considering they were 17-years-old, it just shows you that we always like to look forward to something!

As this week's bulletin shows we have had yet another week packed with activities and events to broaden the experiences of our students at AVA. We are planning for our World Challenge trip to Malaysia, Year 9 are raising money for Breast Cancer UK, and we celebrated yet more Gadirova medals.

At the start of the week I delivered an assembly to all secondary students about the importance of **Respect** – the importance of kindness, keeping our school safe, and respecting every individual in the building. As one of our three values, **Respect** is essential to being part of the school community. It not only needs to be repeated frequently, but needs to be taught. We do this daily in everything that we do.

Finally, we would like to introduce our first ever **School Surgery**. If you have any concerns or issues regarding your child or children within our care, please drop in to the surgery to meet with a member of the Leadership Team on **Tuesday 29th November** from 9am-11am.

Anyone is welcome, and we would love to see you.

Gavin Gibson Academy Principal



Contacting the School:			
Year 7: <u>year7enquiries@theacademy.me</u>		Year 8: <u>year8enquiries@</u>	theacademy.me
Year 9: <u>year9enquiries@theacademy.me</u>		Year 10: <u>year10enquirie</u>	s@theacademy.me
Year 11: <u>year11enquiries@theacademy.me</u>		Post 16: post16@theaca	ademy.me
Key Links:			
Secondary website	Parents' evenings	EduLink One	Trips/Lunch money

World Championship Success for the Gadirova twins

AVA 6th Formers Jessica and Jennifer Gadirova were among Team GB's World Gymnastics Championship medallists, heling to secure a team place at the 2024 Paris Olympics in the process.

The twins helped secure GB team silver medal on Tuesday, which not only guaranteed a place in Paris, but was also the team's best ever team performance at a major championship.

Then on Thursday Jessica, pictured, became

the first ever British woman to win an individual all-round World Championship medal when her superb floor routine catapulted her in to the medal positions.

Speaking about the **Resilience** that helped her secure her individual bronze medal, Jessica told the BBC: "I had done all the hard work, so it was time just to go perform it as best I can, and that's what I did."

Years 8, 9 & 10 – World Challenge Malaysia: Parent Meeting

Aylesbury Vale Academy invites parents of students in Years 8, 9 and 10 to join an information evening about our exciting forthcoming Malaysia expedition, running in **July 2024**.



This is a life-changing opportunity for students to explore Malaysia with expert guides, while developing their life skills, confidence and independence. We're partnering with World Challenge to offer a 13night trip, which complements school learning.

Applications are now open, so please <u>visit our trip</u> <u>webpage</u> for the sign-up link, itinerary, travel dates, Covid-secure booking terms and trip cost – examples of how past students have earned this themselves will be covered in the talk.

Jamie from World Challenge will host the 20-minute Teams presentation on **Wednesday 16th November at 6pm.** Please come along and ask any questions, or just listen in.

To attend remotely via Teams go to <u>https://weareworldchallenge.com/trips/e2jhqkr/</u>

If you have questions about the trip, contact Hhawley@theacademy.me or Moloughlin@theacademy.me

Subject Superstars

This week's **History Hero** is **Zore B** (Year 11), for her outstanding effort, attention to details, and a great mini-mock score on the Treaty of Versailles.



PSHE Workshop

In January we are hoping to run a PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and RSE (Relationships and Sexual Education) workshop. In this workshop Miss O'Loughlin will answer any questions parents have about the PSHE and RSE curriculum and discuss the RSE policy.

If you would like to attend the Parent's PSHE and RSE Workshop in 2023, please complete <u>this form</u> before Thursday 10th November.

Remembrance Day 2022

We will be taking time to remember and reflect on those who have sacrificed themselves in order to enable us to live in our democracy next **Friday 11th November**. We invite students who are cadets with the armed forces or are part of the Scouting ir Guide movements to come to school wearing their full uniforms on this day.



Poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day can be purchased from the secondary school reception. All proceeds will go to the Royal British Legion.

GCSE History Trip to Berlin - UPDATE

Thank you to all parents and carers who provided passport details so promptly. Flights have now been booked so a polite reminder, as stated on letters handed out September, that all deposits paid are non-refundable.



Parent Pay accounts have been set up to allow you to pay amounts as and when suits you. However, the following must be adhered to to keep your child's place: 1st deposit of £185.00 to be paid by **Friday 7th October 2022**; 2nd deposit of £70.00 to be paid by **Monday 7th November 2022**; Remaining balance of £274.00 to be paid by **Monday 9th January 2023**.

Full passport details must be provided as soon as your child's passport arrives i.e. first name, surname, date of

birth, gender, passport start date, passport expiry date, nationality and passport issuing country. **The** deadline to submit your passport details is Monday 7th November.

Passport details can be entered on <u>this form</u>. Any hoodies must be ordered, paid for and the required size given by Friday 2nd December.

Any issues with completing this form, please try the link on your child's History class Microsoft Teams page, or you can email Mrs Michhiana on <u>smichhiana@theacademy.me</u>

Art GCSE dates and deadline

GCSE art students have been made aware of the following subject key dates and deadlines:

Fine Art		11A/AF1		11C/AF1
Mock Exam: 10 ho	ours to produce a 2D final piece fo	or 21/11/22 less	ons 1-5	23/11/22 lessons 1-5
the Personal Project	ct (coursework)	22/11/22 less	ons 1-5	24/11/22 lessons 1-5
Personal Project (coursework)		Friday 16/12/2	22	Friday 16/12/22
Final Submission				
Externally Set Assig	gnment introduced (Exam paper)	05/01/23		05/01/23
Final Exam: 10 hou	urs to produce a 2D final piece for	r 18/04/23 less	ons 1-5	20/04/23 lesson 1-5
the externally set as	ssignment and submission of prep	0 19/04/23 less	ons 1-5	21/04/23 lesson 1-5
work.				
Art Craft and Design		11C/A	\T1	
Mock Exam: 10 hours to produce a 3D final piece for the Personal		21/11/	22 lessons 1-5	
Project (coursework)		22/11/	22 lessons 1-5	
Personal Project (coursework)		Friday	16/12/22	
Final Submission			-	
Externally Set Assignment introduced (Exam paper)		05/01/	23	
Final Exam: 10 hours to produce a 2D or 3D final piece for the		18/04/	23 lessons 1-5	
externally set assignment and submission of prep work.			23 lessons 1-5	

Cheerabilities

Aylesbury Cheerleading Academy is running sessions for those who have additional needs to provide all children with the true experience off All Star Cheerleading, from tumbling and stunting to the thrill of performing in front of a crowd.

Training takes place from 5.45pm – 7pm every **Wednesday** evening.

For more information, contact info@aylesburycheerleadingacademy.co.uk.

Careers

Labour Market Information



As part of our careers provision at AVA we focus on providing parents and learners Labour Market Information. This information is a useful tool to help research future jobs in the local area, understand the skills needed for certain roles, and the demand for future employment. You can find more information <u>here</u>.

Honda Employer Webinar

If your child enjoys cars, vehicle maintenance or engineering, they will be interested in our first Employer Webinar of the year, hosted by Honda.



The UK automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy worth more than £78.9 billion in turnover. Over 1 million people are employed across the automotive industry, with more than 30 manufacturers building in excess of 70 models of vehicle in the UK, all of which need to be serviced and maintained by skilled engineers.

Attend this seminar if you would like the opportunity to discuss a career within the automotive industry, particularly in the field of vehicle maintenance where motor vehicle technicians are required to keep up to date with new automotive technology.

The webinar takes place online on Tuesday November 8th from 6pm to 7pm, and can be accessed here.

Online Careers and Work Experience

Over the coming weeks we have a range of online careers and work experience days for students aged 14-18 to take part in, help[ing students find out more about their possible future careers and take part in

interactive sessions where they can gain experience to help in their university applications. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday November 5th- Psychology Career Day Saturday November 12th - Business Career Day Saturday November 19th - Architect Career Day Saturday November 26th - Vet Career Day Saturday December 3rd - Law Career Day Saturday December 10th - Science Career Day Saturday December 17th - Arts Career Day

Students can visit <u>www.careerdays.co.uk</u> to choose their sessions.





Mrs Weedon says... It has been a pleasure to welcome back

all our year 7s, who have made a fantastic start to the term.

Many of the students are looking very smart in their uniform, and it is very important we maintain this throughout the year.

We have been very impressed with how the student have settled back into routines and lessons this week.

It has been another busy week, with the Diwali dance workshop,

extracurricular activities, and student parliament applications. I very much enjoyed reading the fantastic application letters, and with so many impressive people in Year 7 Mrs Lutchi will have a difficult time deciding who to appoint!

This week in tutor time Year 7 continued with the numeracy programme and were introduced to the Unifrog website, where they can complete a personality test to get them thinking about what careers they may want to go into.

Our community assembly this week was delivered by Ms



Proud, who discussed 'character' and how we can shape and change our character based on all the different things we do.

We also, had a guest speaker in our Friday assembly who talked about how he overcame some of the obstacles he faced by creating a roadmap, detailing to where he wanted to go and how he planned to get there. It was a very inspirational presentation, and we hope some of our students were motivated to create their own roadmap to what their goals.

Dates for you Diaries:

Friday 9th December Christmas Panto (Aladdin). This is a great opportunity, and we'd like to take as many Year 7s as possible. Please make your payments on Parent Pay.

Thursday May 4th Parents' Evening

Year 7 Academy Values Awards



Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Form Attendance (%):

- 1. Franklin 2 99%
- 2. Nobel 3 97.3%
- 3. Faraday 3 96%

Individual Achievement Points:

- 1. Laila M
- 2. Oliwia K
- 3. Dylan H

Honourable Mentions:

- **1.** Litter-picking ambassadors
- 2. All students who took part in the Diwali Workshop
 - 3. Student Parliament applicants

Any enquiries, please contact year7enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Weedon and the Year 7 Team



Ms Dutson says... Year 8 have swiftly settled back into our school routines this week. We have been pleased to welcome them back and look forward to working with them for the second half of the Autumn Term.

The eight students who participated in the Diwali Dance Workshop on Tuesday morning were a credit to our year group and enjoyed the event immensely. A fun time was had by all (especially Mrs Powell) with everyone's co-ordination being put to the test. The session concluded with a grand finale dance to 'Jai Ho', and a loud round of applause! Students who attended the event have asked that we run further events of this nature, and in response we will be exploring future opportunities

Congratulations to **Paige**, **Olivia**, **Zach** and **Jennifer** on being successfully appointed to the School Parliament. We know you will do a great job representing Year 8 and The Academy.

Mr Gibson delivered our Assembly on Monday with a strong focus on respect, how we demonstrate it through our actions, and its importance within the learning environment we share.

It was outlined that by being respectful of others, ourselves, and our environment a positive ethos will flourish within our community.

Miss Proud led our Community Assembly on



Wednesday and her presentation focussed on character, how we see ourselves, and are seen by others. The importance of developing a strong work ethic and planning for the future.

<u>Timetables</u> Students were issued with new timetables this week to take into account setting, and as a result there may be changes to your child's timetable. If you wish to view your child's timetable it can be found on Edulink.

Parents' Evening Our Year 8 virtual Parents Evening will be held between 4.30pm and 7.30pm on **Thursday 15th December.** Further information about how to book appointments will be sent out will be sent out next week. We would you to make your appointments as soon as you are able to; this will ensure you get to speak to your child's teachers.

Please take the time to complete the <u>Home/School Agreement</u> sent earlier in the week from Mr Gibson.

Dates for you Diaries:

Thursday 15th December Parents' Evening, 4.20pm – 7.30pm

Year 8 Academy Values Awards

Tear o Academy values Awards			
respect	aspiration	resilience	
Logan E	Ellie R	Sade A	
Logan B	Jamil A	Zoe O	
Noor A	Jenson R	Zain N	
Sofia P	Kairon C	Tyler M	
Scarlett O	Lamin C	Sam K	
We	ekly Form Competition		
Form Achievement Poi	nts: Individual A	Achievement Points:	
Franklin 2		1. Freddie K	
		2. Ami G	
		3. Julia B	
		4. Harry G 5. Elizabeth B	
Form Attendance (%		rable Mentions:	
1. Nobel 3 – 100%		W – for giving up her time to the Cheerability Team, and	
2. Nobel 1 – 98.7% 3. Faraday 3 – 97.4%	bringing	g awareness to our families	
5. Taraday 5 – 57.47	Z. James A	 for his creative ideas, which as part of the P6 sessions for older students 	
		r being collectively recognised or for their brilliant behaviour	
		lents who have volunteered to eading in our Primary setting	
Any enquiries, please contact year8eng	uiries@theacademy.me		

Ms Dutson and the Year 8 Team



Mr Hawley says... Welcome back to Year 9, I hope they had a good rest, a good Halloween and are looking forward to a good firework night.

From conversations I have been having everyone is excited about the up and coming Football World Cup.

Big 'well done' to James C, who's football is going well and who continues to work by volunteering at the club. Once more James has also decided to take on the Duke of Edinburgh as well! That is absolutely aspirational.

The Year 9 Council have decided to support the Breast Cancer UK charity. If you would like to support this cause, you bring in a £1 to get Breast Cancer UK badge.

This week we had a fantastic assembly from Dr Sam McKee about his journey from being a destitute young adult with no qualifications, to passing his A-levels, attending Cambridge University, and completing his Doctorate. He explained the importance of his personal plan or 'roadmap' that helped him navigate his way through his problems to where he is today.

Breast ¥ Cancer ⊃

Dates for you Diaries:

Wednesday 13th November World Challenge Malaysia Parents' Information Evening

Friday 9th December Christmas Reward Movie Night, 3.30pm – 5pm approx.

Year 9 Academy Values Awards

aspiration

respect

Finley B

for always being kind and respectful to teachers and going out of his way to wish everyone a nice day.

James C

for going above and beyond by offering his time as a volunteer

resilience

Zarra C

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

- 1. Nair's Nightmares
- 2. Thorney's Trap
- 3. Franklin 2 (who are in need of a new nickname!)

Form Attendance (%):

- 1. Binn's Barnacles
- 2. Nair's Nightmares
 - 3. Franklin 2

Individual Achievement Points:

1. Ella H – 85

- 2. Megan W 82
 - 3. Lily D 62

Honourable Mentions:

- 1. Finley B
- 2. James C
- 3. Sofia R-S

Any enquiries, please contact year9enquiries@theacademy.me

Mr Hawley and the Year 9 Team



Mr O'Leary says...

Welcome back after half term and I hope all of the students had a restful break.

Year 10 have started this term in a positive mind set and have settled back into lessons.

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

Assemblies:

Assemblies are on Tuesday and Friday, and students need to go to the amphitheatre on both days.

Careers

Year 10 will be looking at careers during tutor time and lessons. During Tutor Time during the week commencing Monday 31st October, all tutor groups looked at careers in different job sectors, and the individual skills needed for each role.

Across the year there will be Study Higher meetings for the students to attend, and there will be plenty of opportunities this year for the whole year group.

Dates for you Diaries:

Thursday 1st December Parents' Evening



Extra-Curricular/PE		Lunch Clubs
Monday	Netball, Basketball, Football	Gym
Tuesday	Alternative Sports, Fitness, FightKlub	Futsal
Wednesday	Girls Football, Fitness, Martial Arts	
Thursday	Rugby, Fitness, Zumba, Academy Leaders, Football	Basketball

	Tutor time
Monday	Careers – Session 4 – Have you got what it takes?
Tuesday	Community assembly – Mrs Marina – Inspirational Speaker
Wednesday	Numeracy – Week 7 – Bronze/Silver/Gold activity
Thursday	Literacy – Week 7 – Word of the Week
Friday	AD assembly – Mrs Leach – Preparing for Year 11

Year 10 Academy Values Awards

respect	aspiration	resilience
Abdelali R	Abigail S	Alfie C
Alice K	Anisa K	Ayshah H
Ben G	Binta C	Callum W
Dillon E	Elijah P	Flynn S
Hanna R	Isabella B	Jake F
Jamie O	Jessica W	Lavinia N
Lemuel M	Lewis C	Lucy S
Macie H	Marley G	Maya P
Mya-Ruby L-L	Oscar B	Sienna P
		Taylor F

Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

- 1. Franklin 1 281
- 2. Faraday 2 280
 - 3. Nobel 1 263

Form Attendance (%):

- 1. Faraday 2 94%
- 2. Franklin 2 93.9
- 3. Franklin 1 92.1%

Individual Achievement Points:

- 1. Annabel H 40
- 2. Hannah W 30
- 3. Callum W 28

Honourable Mentions:

- 1. Ben G
- 2. Lemuel M
- 3. Lavinia N

They have started their GCSE Coursework independently and their motivation this term has been amazing.

Any enquiries, please contact <u>year10enquiries@theacademy.me</u> Mr O'Leary and the Year 10 Team



Mrs Leach says... Year 11 have had a positive start to the new term. They've been eager to receive their English, Maths and Science results from the pre-mocks and are now preparing for the winter mocks which start at the end of November.

Teaching staff have just entered their Year 11 data, this will be shared with students next week. Remember you can access this information via Edulink.

Our assembly this week focused on Work Experience and what this means. Work experience is important for getting into any career. Having some can make you stand

out from the crowd on applications for courses, training and jobs. Work experience is not offered in school like it used to be, but at AVA we have been promoting the following with Year 11.

<u>Work Experience</u> Since September we have offered work experience in Engineering, Medicine, Vet Careers, Technology, Business & Finance, Law, Finance & Investment, Science, Architect, Psychology, Dentistry, Midwifery and Performing Arts.

We will continue to promote virtual work experience, informing students through emails in the Parent Bulletin.

We also informed the students that the week commencing 3rd July will also be known as 'Work Experience Week', and by the 10th July the expectation is that all Year 11 students would have



completed at least 1 day of work experience (which can be virtual). If you child is currently volunteering or helping within the local community, this can also be classed as work experience. Work experience will need to be logged by the school and we will send out more detail before Christmas on how to do this.

<u>Theatre Revision</u> Aylesbury Waterside Theatre are showing the following theatre shows to help students with their English Literature exam:

Tuesday 14th February - Saturday 18th February An Inspector Calls

Tuesday 21st March and Wednesday 22nd March Revision on Tour: Macbeth

We have asked Year 11 to express their interest in the school organising a trip to the theatre. As these are on an evening and out of school time, we will not consider organising these trips without a minimum interest of 50 students.

Year 11 Academy Values Awards



Weekly Form Competition

Form Achievement Points:

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

Individual Achievement Points:

- 1. Corey C
- 2. Dillon M
- 3. Zoha O

Form Attendance (%):

- 1. Franklin 2 96%
- 2. Nobel 2 95.4%
- 3. Nobel 1 95%

Curriculum Leader Top Tips

To support the children with their upcoming mocks we have asked Curriculum Leaders to share their top tips on revision for the subject. Each week we will be sharing information from different departments on the lead up to the mock exams...

Media Studies

Students have been provided with a revision folder on Teams that includes the topics that will be in the mock exam and the lessons PPTs to help revision. There is also a bank of questions, ranging from 1 mark to 20 marks.

Topics covered in the mock are:

- TV unit CSPs Dr Who & His Dark Material.
- Radio unit CSPs Kiss FM Breakfast Show & BBC Radio 1 1963 Tony Blackburn Breakfast Show.
- Film unit CSPs Black Widow & I, Daniel Blake

They will also have an unseen text where they have to display their media knowledge and show transferable skills. We have provided an Unseen text revision booklet in the Teams class area to help them build on this skill.

Computer Science

- 1. Students can download the specification using this link.
- 2. Identify topics that you need to revise and areas that you think you are weak in.
- Access the lesson called <u>"Revision checklist on MS Teams in the Computer Science folder".</u> This
 will take you to different videos based on the topics they have outlined as weak areas.
- 4. Visit the link <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zmtchbk</u> this will assist you in any areas that you did not fully understand from the videos.
- 5. Create concept maps to summarise each of the areas that you have revised.
- 6. Use the OCR workbook Practice questions and answer the questions based on areas you have revised. If you have not purchased this book, it is available on ParentPay if needed.



Areas that you need to master:

Paper 1	Paper 2
 The CPU Secondary Storage RAM and ROM Embedded Systems Sound sampling Binary to denary Binary shifts ASCII Network Protocols Networks Topology Network Security Utility software Cloud computing Data protection Acts Ethical, Legal, cultural and environmental issues 	 Logic Gates Algorithm (Pseudocode) SQL Flowchart Translators Sorts Search Robust programs (Maintainability) Program constructs Variable and constants IDE Data types Test Data Array OCR exam reference language or Python code. Trace table Functions

<u>History</u>

All **GCSE History** students have been given white revision booklets to help them revise for their upcoming mock on Paper 1. This includes key information, knowledge checklists, tips for success and model answers for each type of question.

BBC Bitesize have content of most of our **GCSE History** topics broken down into manageable chunks. They also include revision videos to watch. You can access these for free using this link.

As we work through practicing and assessing exam papers, all **GCSE History** students have personalised success criteria for each question allowing them to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and 'exam wrappers' for each paper completed to aid their reflection of their revision strategies.

GCSE History students' class Teams pages have scanned copies of all course textbooks as well as class materials to revise content and/ or catch up on any work missed.

Any enquiries, please contact year11enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Leach and the Year 11 Team



Mrs Sharma says... The return from the Half Term break has seen some of our 6F students sitting their English and Maths GCSE exams, some to improve grades and some international students.

We are very proud to share that one of our Year 13 students has competed in the World Gymnastics Championships and won a Bronze medal for Britain. More details are available on social media.

All 6F students have been issued with lanyards which ensure safe exit and re-entry into the Academy at the end of lunch.

Our Form Attendance Trophy has gone to Year 12 for last Half term. All students with 100% attendance for the half term are entered in to a raffle, and 2 students in Year 12 and 2 in Year 13 won these vouchers!

Any enquiries, please contact post16enquiries@theacademy.me

Mrs Sharma and the 6th Form Team

Regular Bulletin Items



Donate or Swap Your Uniform!

If you have a blazer that does not fit your child, bring it in to school and we may be able to swap it for a second hand one in good condition.

Alternatively, if you would like to **donate your old blazer any branded items or any uniform items to the school**, we would be very grateful. Just come in to the main reception and talk to our staff. This can really help families in need.

Special Educational Needs

If you have concerns regarding your child's learning and would like to discuss them with the Special Educational Needs team, please complete the online form, <u>here</u>.

Meeting with Staff

At AVA – as at all schools - staff work to their own timetables, which means they are often in the classroom or on a duty when you may want to meet with them.

The best way to organise a meeting with any member of staff is via Reception, either by calling 01296 482551 or by emailing <u>enquiries@theacademy.me</u>. Requests are always passed on to the relevant person, and they will be in touch with you to arrange a convenient meeting time.



Organising a meeting in this way gives staff the chance to prepare in advance, which usually leads to a quicker resolution than when parents come in to reception without an appointment.

Thank you for all your support