



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN 18

17 January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has been a little more settled with everyone being used to being back after our Christmas break. We've had census day and as always, the burgers and twisty fries went down a storm and who doesn't like a chocolate muffin!

Clubs started this week as well as YDP, the children as all really excited to start a new club or try a new skill which is just wonderful to see.

We have had one unannounced fire alarm this week, thank you to all the staff for a quick unexpected exit with the children on site. Today we had a scheduled fire alarm, the children have been amazing as always and we've managed to evacuate and check quickly.

The applications for our Reception places in September 2025 has now closed via the county portal. If you have missed the deadline for applying, please contact the council as soon as possible.

We had a football and hockey fixture this week, it is wonderful to see the children experiencing new sports and competing against other schools. Thank you to Mr O'Leary for organising these and starting to build teams and the confidence in the children to play in a team.

A reminder to please check your school gateway account and clear down any payments that are still outstanding. As advised earlier this week we will be moving over to card payments only to help to reduce the debt on accounts.

We have sent out our first advisory letters regarding late collections and non-bookings. Please note that this is from Preschool through to Year 6. We introduced the policy in the Autumn term and are now starting to apply it across all year groups. If you haven't booked your child into a club or drop them off without booking etc you will receive a warning letter initially and then a fine for subsequent instances, this includes asking the school office to book in your child so please consider this before requesting the booking as a fine is applied to this as well.

PTA SAVE THE DATE 30.1.25

If you would like to join our re-forming PTA we are holding a meeting at 6:30PM on Thursday 30th January in the Primary Main Hall.

If you are interested in being part of the PTA, come along. Everyone is welcome! Details will follow on some of the key positions we need to have on our PTA.

Parents Evening

The Parents Evening bookings are live and close on the 31st January. If you would like an appointment, please go into the school cloud system to book one with your child's teacher. If you are unable to make any of the days, you can request an email update on your child, but we will not be booking individual meetings with teachers outside of these times.



West End in Schools – March 2025

Hopefully you have seen the letter that went out at the beginning of January regarding the fantastic West End in Schools coming in to celebrate World Book Day again with us this year! This exciting event runs over three days and is for all classes from Reception to Year 6. Due to the scale of this, it comes at a substantial cost which breaks down to £3.88 per child.

As of this point, we still need to raise over £1000 to be able to go ahead with the visit. If we do not receive the payment, we will need to cancel the workshop. This would be such a shame as children really benefitted from, and enjoyed, the workshops last year.

If you haven't already paid, please do so using School Gateway – it under the heading 'West End in Schools'.

Thank you for your support in running this event.

Upcoming Author Visit – Years 4, 5 and 6

We are very excited to announce that children's author, Jacob North, is coming into school on Thursday 6th February 2025 to speak to our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils. Jacob North will be in to talk about his first book in a "spellbinding" new series. The book is full of spine-tingling monsters, unlikely friendships and a hero to root for from page one.



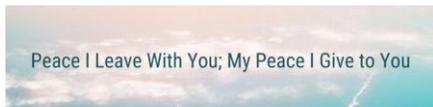
We work alongside Our Bookshop, based in Tring, to organise these fantastic author visits. By purchasing the discounted book from their website (using the link below), we support them, meaning they can continue to organise such visits for our students. If you purchase the book using the link below, it will arrive on the day of the visit, and Jacob will sign every copy bought.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BEN AT OUR BOOKSHOP: Parents, you need to order the book from our Bookshop- click below:

<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/ice-apprentices-a-breathtaking-new-childrens-fantasy-series-volume-1/>

The signed books will be given to your child on the day which is always very exciting for them.

Reflection



The Rythm of life

As we end the school week it may feel like we have been back in routine forever, rather than 2 short weeks. As we move through the year, it can be tempting to live for the breaks in routine. But what if we learned to appreciate the gentle rhythm of the days, weeks and months that make a school year? What if we saw the rhythm of the school year and its routines as actually helpful to us?

The routines we see as a constraint could actually show us how to maintain good habits which benefit us as we move through life.

The rhythm of the year rather than being dry and predictable could enables us to find balance in our lives. As we end the week we invite our community to reflect how balance in life can contribute to our wellbeing as individuals but also as a community.

We invite you to give thanks for the rhythm of life and it's routines so that, rather than constrain us, these things bring us peace and actually support us to be better versions of ourselves.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend.

Best wishes,
Mrs C Baughan

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

SEND Support Phone Line - 01296 382135

We are open every day between 10am and 4pm and until 6pm on Tuesdays. The line is for parents, professionals and anyone with enquiries about SEND in Buckinghamshire.

Please note that the support line is open between 10am and 2pm during school holidays and is closed on Bank Holidays.

Primary SEND concerns

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9_VtsKSZm5ilcidJig5HlgRJQUZUMEVCUk1PMUZXRtq1UiiUVVBaSFNYUFICMi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cA359AD1B-53A8-5F47-9B1A-80EC4AFA2E4C

Free School Meals

We now have an online free school meal application on our web site under the **Parents** tab. Please find the link below:

<https://www.theacademy.me/page/?title=SCHOOL+MEALS&pid=166>

We also have a dedicated FSM inbox - freeschoolmeals@theacademy.me - where parents can submit FSM forms if you prefer to complete the paper version instead of the online form.