



Avonbourne Academies

#AVBPROUD



FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL Mrs Dyer

As we approach the end of the first term, I would like to thank students, staff, parents and friends of Avonbourne for their continued support and we look forward to celebrating our students' successes with you in our winter showcase this week. It is wonderful to have opportunities to bring the school community together again, whether virtually or in person, and I was incredibly proud of our students this half-term as the whole school came together for a ceremony of remembrance on November 11th. Students behaved impeccably and were a credit to themselves and the Academies. #AVBproud!

This half term has seen the successful launch of our Avonbourne Report and Support and #NeverOK campaigns. It is important to us that students feel safe and supported both at school and in the community and these initiatives provide them with the platform to access guidance and help:

AVB Report & Support

Working together to end all forms of harmful behaviour and discrimination at Avonbourne Academies



We look forward to working with students to develop their character and support them to be the best versions of themselves.

Finally, term will end on Friday 17th December at **12.15pm**. We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday and look forward to welcoming Years 11-13 back on Wednesday 5th January and all other students on Thursday 6th January.

Best Wishes, Mrs Dyer

This term, we are #AVBproud of Sophie B 8AG3

Sophie's Christmas card design won a competition organised by our local MP Tobias Ellwood.

Her winning design beat over 400 entries from other local schools. Sophie's illustrations can be seen below.

A huge well-done Sophie!
#AVBproud





DofE Update

The D of E Bronze award is now well under way with students taking part in activities for their physical, skill and volunteering sections.

The volunteering part of the award aims to get students out into the community to lend a helping hand and they have been able to access a wide range of placements for this.

Lilly C has chosen to help out in the local library while Eve G, Emily L and Imogen B are taking part in Avonbourne's sports leadership programme where they will have the opportunity to help out with sporting activities with local primary schools amongst other things.

Rose T and Chloe D are really pleased to have the opportunity to volunteer at a local charity shop – it is fantastic to see our students volunteering far and wide in our local community!

Miss Sherwood Taylor, D of E Lead



Careers Update

The armed forces include the British Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. Together, they're responsible for the safety and security of the UK. They're involved in combat, peacekeeping, and humanitarian aid. There are hundreds of different armed forces careers. You have the chance to see the world in many jobs you can do in civilian life. For example, a chef, a nurse or an engineer. They also have lots of roles that you'll only find in the forces. These roles include tank crew or military intelligence specialists.

For some jobs, you do not need a lot of qualifications. Wherever you start, you'll have the chance to build a career, get more qualifications and move up through the ranks.

You'll have to commit to a length of service when you join. This can be from 3.5 to 6 years, depending on which of the forces you want to join. Each of the armed forces has its own careers website. You can use them to get tips on recruitment, the selection process and how to prepare.

Cadets can be a great way to get some experience while you're still in school. As a cadet, you'll show commitment to the armed forces and find out about life in the military.

The armed forces also offer sponsorships and bursaries for university students. You can apply for subjects like science, technology, engineering, Maths and healthcare. There are exciting ways to get experience of military life during your degree.

Remembrance at Avonbourne 2021

One of the most powerful moments this term was when the Academies were able to come together in the same space for the very first time. At 11am on the 11th of November students and staff descended to the large playground, wearing their poppies, for our Remembrance ceremony. Mrs Dyer led the ceremony with a short reading and Mr Kidman played the Last Post. The students were impeccable throughout, and the two minutes silence was a very poignant moment for all.

In the build-up to Remembrance Day all students had an assembly focusing on local history. The impact of war on Bournemouth in WW1 and WW2 was discussed, and students were most interested to learn that in WW1 some local hotels were used to house injured Indian soldiers and that Kings' Park was used as a parade ground. Students also learnt about two local young men who lost their lives. William Alder left a local Bournemouth school in 1915 to join the army and was killed at Ypres in 1917. Jonathon Allott also attended a local Bournemouth school and joined the army in 2008, he was sent to Afghanistan the following year. He was killed in an explosive device blast in 2009 aged 19. Students particularly remembered William Alder and Jonathon Allott in their two minutes silence this year, as well as all those who have had their lives impacted by war across the world.



A Greener Avonbourne

Avonbourne and the Eco-Schools project

This year our school has made the decision to work towards Eco-Schools Green Flag accreditation (see <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/> for more information).



Eco-Schools began in 1994 and is the largest educational programme on the planet (there are currently 70 countries delivering the Eco-Schools programme around the world), in England it is operated by the environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy. The Eco-Schools programme focuses on empowering young people to lead environmental education and action. It does this by providing a simple, seven-step framework that gives students a voice, which allows them to plan and implement environmental projects in their school, local community and beyond. There are multiple reasons we have decided to embark on the journey to Eco-Schools Green Flag. Firstly, our planet (and all life on it) is already beginning to feel the catastrophic effects of climate change, plastic pollution, biodiversity loss and a myriad of other environmental challenges. In our school we don't want our student-body to avoid, ignore, shy-away or cower from these challenges, this will not help. Instead, we want to openly discuss the problems we all face and tackle them head-on together. Through this approach, we hope to make a positive difference now, whilst empowering our students with the knowledge and skills they need to continue making a positive difference as they grow to become leaders, decision-makers, and educators themselves.

Alongside benefitting our planet, participation in the Eco-Schools programme will also benefit our school and its students. Independent research has found that student participation in the Eco-Schools programme leads to: increased confidence, development of leadership skills, improved behaviour and greater motivation – all of which are important life-skills our learners will need when they move on to further education or employment. It is also proven that Eco-Schools consume less water, use less energy and produce less waste, creating financial savings which can then be spent on additional educational resources.

You may be reading this and wondering, 'How does this impact me?' Well, our students are yet to decide on the environmental actions our school will embark on, so a detailed answer is difficult at the moment. However, over the coming months you may notice you have a son or daughter who is gradually becoming more interested in environmental issues. This interest may manifest itself in anything from an increased willingness to watch the news to regular requests for plant-based dinners. And whilst, as mentioned, it is impossible for us to say exactly how the programme will impact you, we are definitely able to say that our school is doing its very best to protect our planet, so your child can have the best possible future.

I hope you're as excited about our Eco-Schools journey as everyone at school is - if you would like to find out more, or get involved, please feel free to contact us. The school's new Eco-Committee will be chaired by two year 11 prefects – Alicia and Andre – and will be overseen by Mrs Tabet.

We are excited to announce that we have signed up to participate in the Eco-Schools project. Eco-Schools is a charity that is passionate about engaging young people in environmental education and action. They provide a simple, seven-step framework that guides, empowers and motivates pupils to drive change and improve environmental awareness in their school, local community and beyond.



This newsletters' eco-tip: **No more engine idling.**

Leaving your car engine idling whilst you are stationary not only wastes petrol and burns up motor oil, but it is also bad for our environment. Car exhaust systems produce emissions into the air and contribute to air pollution, one of the major causes of climate change.



At Avonbourne, we want clean air for our students and for our local community, so we are asking that parents take this into consideration when dropping off and picking up students and turn off engines.

If you have an automatic start/stop engine button enabled in your car, this shuts down and restarts the internal combustion engine to reduce the amount of time the engine spends idling, thereby reducing fuel consumption and emissions, and leaving our environment cleaner.

Friends of Avonbourne Academies (PTA)

Do you still have Christmas presents to buy? Or are you looking forward to the New Year sales? Then make sure you have joined easy fundraising!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/avonbourneacademies/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-f1

Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into free donations to the Academy. 💰💰



During PSHE this half term, we have been learning about several key topics that will help our young people to stay safe, healthy, and prepared for life's challenges and opportunities.

Our year 7s have been introduced to puberty, which compliments their upcoming topics in science. As well as puberty, we have been learning about body confidence and will begin to study self-worth and body image. We look at how the media may influence body image and how people can feel confident in their bodies. Self-worth is an important aspect of puberty, as we begin to understand how the changes that happen to people are natural and normal processes.

Our Year 8s have been taking on the government! We have been studying politics and Liberties rules and laws. Next week we will be moving onto Voting and elections and Political debates. This unit falls under citizenship which is a statutory part of the curriculum and important for our students. We can get to grips with the world we live in so that our students can be an active part of the modern world and society.

Our Year 9s have been studying Rights in the community and are continuing their work on Relationship boundaries to compliment and build on knowledge from their previous topic. We begin to explore Unwanted contact from people in the community and the rights of humans. This unit has subtle links with citizenship to help build on units for year 10.

Our year 10s have been studying Friendship challenges, Gangs and crime and the dangers of Substance abuse in tutor time this term. Our students will be having a longer session on Weapons which has been created by the police outreach team 'safer schools' and will also take a further look into the dangers of substance abuse in this lesson.

Our year 11s have been studying Mental health concerns which has been designed to help support our students during the mock exam period.



CHARACTER EDUCATION

There continues to be a fantastic level of engagement with our extracurricular activities. This term has involved concert preparations, sports fixtures, competitions, challenges, and project making. It is wonderful to see our students developing their character skills and subject understanding. Here are some pictures of just a few activities students can take part in:



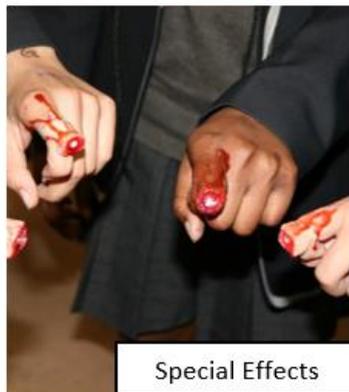
Art Club



Orchestra



Newspaper Club



Special Effects



Basketball



History Club



Photography

Please check the website in the new year for our updated extracurricular clubs list under the tab Students and Parents and then Extra Curricular clubs.

REACH Ambassadors

We were incredibly impressed with the quality of the REACH Ambassador applications. After much deliberation the following students were selected for these prestigious leadership roles:

Avonbourne Boys' Academy

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Kyrell V	Harley S	Sai S	Arra Y
Nauman D	Tom C	Jamie C	Shahram R
Matthew A	Enian D	Boe R	Rajveer H
David C	Namo R	Khattab A	Abdullah R
Peter T	Baron R	Charlie H	Amjad A
Angus D	Thamid M		Toni Alex F V
Shad R	Caleb M		
	Roni S		
	Kobi S		
	Mateusz P		

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Avonbourne Girls' Academy

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Destiny G	Livia M-L	Jessica B	Beth H
Poppy P	Bella H	Mia J	Peta R
Maram A	Matilda M	Eve G	Gabby L
Cerys V	Hollie J	Ishvani S	Michaela K
Lena N	Jessica M	Amy C	Lyra S
Olivia G	Daisy S	Chloe-May D	Sienna T
Edie B	Nicole M	Emily L	Alice W
Amy P	Mia M	Dharmi G	Talia M
Emma B-R	Maya Z	Lilly C	Amber P
Elle C	Grace D	Elizabeth O	Binnie H
Laila W	Daisy F	Hala M	Paulina O
Angelina A-H R	Megan K	CJ G	Meshva P
Florence B-R	Olivia W	Paige K F	Beatrice P
Isla G	Erin S	Previous A I	Alessia P
Zahra A	Lola G-W	Gray V	
	Zara A	Viktoria P	
	Lyra M-S		
	Sophie H		
	Bella H		
	Ceylin A		
	Natanya P		
	Quincy S		
	Helen A		
	Roxanna H		
	Roberta O		




CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

Our REACH Ambassador's first activity was to support with the collection of our Christmas Hamper Appeal donations. Thank you for donating to this worthwhile cause. Your generosity has meant that families within our local community can have a fantastic Christmas. Well done to 7AB2 who donated a total of 74 items.

We filled an entire classroom with food donations, and these have been delivered to Citygate church to be packed in the week leading up to Christmas. Some of our REACH Ambassadors will be volunteering in their Christmas holidays to pack these hampers where they will see exactly what has happened to all our donations.





Seneca

Congratulations to all students on this half term's leader boards!

Avonbourne Girls' Academy/USF Leaderboard

Total study time:

1. Ayesha Y8
2. Nadia S Y8
3. Hadassah E Y11
4. Susan K Y8
5. Leah-Marie T Y9
6. Sophie E Y8
7. Kizzy E USF
8. Selin T Y9
9. Jasmine O Y8
10. Ida A USF

Average score:

1. Lilly Y9
2. Kristen C Y10
3. Courtney J Y11
4. Zofia D USF
5. Elizabeth O Y9
6. Alice R Y11
7. Laura de AS Y8
8. Hollie J Y8
9. Louisa H Y8
10. Sahar J Y9

Avonbourne Boys' Academy Leaderboard

Total study time:

1. Sseco T Y8
2. Colin C Y10
3. Colin H Y7
4. Luca P Y8
5. Gianluca G N Y8
6. Igor da C Y10
7. Roland I Y9
8. Matthew B Y8
9. Lucas B Y9
10. Emmanuel B Y10

Average score:

1. Caleb M Y8
2. Rajveer H Y10
3. Toni F V Y10
4. Jonah S Y8
5. Shahram R Y10
6. Tharun S Y8
7. Zain M Y8
8. Jason M Y8
9. Dylan S Y8
10. James W Y7

sparx



On 26th November two students took part in the UK Parliamentary Mentoring Programme with our local MP, Tobias Ellwood VR. Jack Scantlebury from Year 13 and Alicia Parsons from Year 11 visited the MP at his constituency offices in Boscombe for a one-to-one mentoring meeting. This superb opportunity was possible thanks to the links Avonbourne Academies have with the Diana Award.

Mentoring can provide young people with a positive role model to support their development. Career skills mentoring programmes can improve behavioural, academic and employment outcomes for young people, whilst supporting their social and emotional development. At such a busy time of year, we were very grateful to have Mr Ellwood make time to work with our young people and share his experiences with them.

Both Jack and Alicia felt this opportunity was hugely beneficial. They also found out about a further opportunity to work as an intern in parliament, so certainly found the experience very insightful. Twitter: @appgmentoring



Follow us on Twitter @AvonbourneUL

Follow us on Facebook @ULavonbourneacademy

Follow us on Instagram @avonbourneacademy

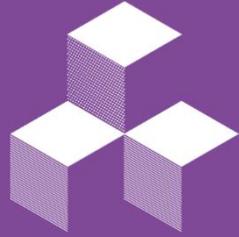
Our Avonbourne Tik Tok account is coming soon!

From Mrs Wallace-Northridge:

It has been another successful half term in the Maths Department with Key Stage 4 students completing over 200,000 questions, totalling 37,872 learning hours on Hegarty Maths. Avonbourne Girls are currently ranked 4th and Avonbourne Boys are close on their heels ranked 6th of the 50 secondary schools within United Learning. A special mention to Kristen in year 10 who is the top performing student in the trust, completing a staggering 3730 questions since September.

Key Stage 3 have also been hard at work using Sparx Maths. A huge congratulations goes to the students in the following classes who are ranked 1st in the Trust out of 960 classes: 8AG1, 8AB3, 8AB1, 9AG1, 9AB1.

Keep up the good work everyone and remember that homework club is available every break and lunch in T3 & T4 to help you stay on track.

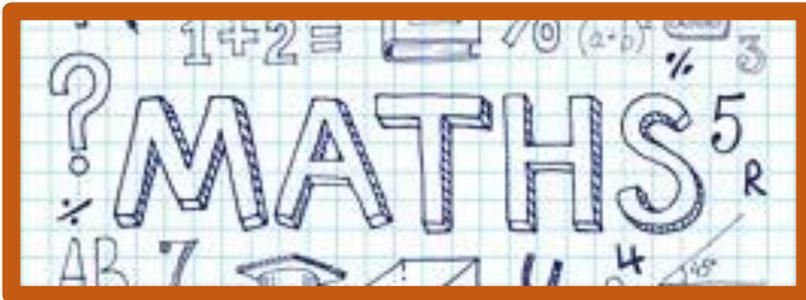


One Hour,
One Young Person,
One Parliamentarian



Tobias Martin Ellwood VR is a British Conservative Party politician, soldier and author. He served in the Royal Green Jackets and reached the rank of captain.

He currently serves as the Member of Parliament for Bournemouth East and served as a UK Government Minister at the Ministry of Defence from 2017 to 2019.



It has been a busy first term in the Maths Department with students working hard across the academies.

The Sparx homework system is now being used across the whole of key stage 3 and is proving very successful in supporting the students learning in class. The completion rates have been steadily increasing week on week, with the girls' academy holding the top spot nationally for the XP Boost completion! I hope this will spur the boys on for the rest of the year!

We have continued to have success across Year 10 and 11 who continue to use the Hegarty Maths platform. Kristen Cheung in Year 10 had the top position nationally in the United Learning Trust for the most completed tasks above 80% success and both the boys' and girls' academies held positions in the top 5 of the United Learning league table. This effort is great to see and will pay dividends for the students as the year goes on.

In recent weeks, we have started a Maths Challenge Club in the department. This is looking at problems from the UKMT Maths Challenges and has sparked an interest in some of our key stage 3 mathematicians in exploring this fantastic subject further. Although still in its early stages, attendance has been good, and I hope that this will lead to students having the opportunity to enter the different competitions that the UKMT run later in the year.

Our PE department have been making up for lost time (due to COVID) with numerous fixtures this half term in Netball, Rugby, Basketball and Football. We have played several local schools including Bourne Academy, Glenmoor and Winton Academies, Bishop and BCS. Highlights include an incredible Year 7 rugby team who battled hard to secure a 25-15 win against BCS, a strong Year 9 Basketball team where Marcel scored several 3 pointers, a dominant Year 10 football team putting four goals past Bourne Academy and a heroic girls rugby team who not only beat our sister Academy 25-15 but scored their first try within two minutes! Well done to all students who took part in fixtures this half term. We look forward to seeing more students get involved after the break and will share the results of our Christmas Netball and Football competitions on social media this week!

**PHYSICAL
EDUCATION**





History Club Years 7-9, after school Week A Mondays

The History Club offers an excellent opportunity for enthusiasts to learn more about the fascinating discipline of History. This half term, students have been investigating aspects of the History curriculum in greater depth, such as Harald Hardrada and the Varangian Guard and Elizabeth I and connections with the Islamic World. A new list of fascinating topics will be launched in the new year.

Scholars' Lunch, Week B Fridays

This increasingly popular pursuit offers the opportunity for Year 11 students to delve into the world of history academia, reading and discussing the content of scholarly articles relating to their GCSE History course. Scholar's Lunch gives students a taste of what it is like to study History at A Level and university, whilst at the same time improving their GCSE grade.

Friday 5th November – 'Stories from Wounded', Emily Mayhew, 2013

Friday 19th November – 'Elizabeth I's love life: was she really a "Virgin Queen?"', Anna Whitelock, BBC History Magazine, 2015

Friday 3rd December – 'Hitler's millionaire backers: how Germany's elite facilitated the rise of the Nazis', Stephan Malinowski, BBC History Magazine, 2019

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL: Thursday 16th December – 'How the Nazis co-opted Christmas', Joe Perry, The Conversation, 2017



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

One of the elements students have focused on this term is the 'fit for life' strand of the PE curriculum. On a fortnightly rotation they have been participating in a progressive exercise and running programme, improving their cardiovascular endurance, resilience, and knowledge of the training principles. Students were set the challenge of competing a 2km run at the start of the year and have tried to improve their times in the final week of term. The level of commitment and determination shown by the students has been very impressive. Please keep an eye out for postcards home. The top students in each year group will be selected to represent the academy in the New Year at the Dorset Cross-Country Championships.



Instagram

The History department is now on Instagram! Students and parents can follow the department to learn more about what is going on in the classroom, local history, on this day in history and anything else that we think our community will find interesting.

@avonbournehistory



Guest lectures from Dr Matthews Rogers-Draycott

Students from Year 10 through to Year 13 studying Enterprise and Marketing or Business, had the opportunity to hear from the award-winning entrepreneurship educator, Dr Rogers-Draycott in December. Students taking Enterprise and Marketing had an insight into pricing policies and models whilst Year 13 learnt about operational efficiency and cannibalistic positioning. Students had the chance to ask questions of Dr Draycott and understand how their learning was the foundation of courses offered at university level.



Come and see us in action!

Do you know a Year 4 or 5 parent who is thinking about secondary schools? We have Open Mornings every Wednesday. Parents can book onto these via our websites:

www.avonbourneboysacademy.org.uk

[uk](http://www.avonbourneboysacademy.org.uk)

www.avonbournegirlsacademy.org.uk

[uk](http://www.avonbournegirlsacademy.org.uk)

We want to show our local community why we are so
#AVBproud!



Key Dates for Spring Term 1 :

Tuesday 4th Jan – Staff Training Day
Wednesday 5th Jan – Staff Training Day – Year 11 back
Wednesday 5th Jan – Y11 Girls' Virtual Parents' Evening
Thursday 6th Jan – All students back
Thursday 6th Jan – Y11 Boys' Virtual Parents' Evening
Thursday 6th Jan – Year 8 ROA Launch Event
January – Year 8 and Year 9 Rank Order Assessments
Wednesday 9th Feb – Y9 Boys' Virtual Parents' Evening
Thursday 10th Feb – Y9 Girls' Virtual Parents' Evening
Wednesday 16th Feb – Y10 Boys' Parents' Evening
Thursday 17th Feb – Y10 Girls' Parents' Evening



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Part of United Learning



In music lessons this term, year 7 have been developing their vocal performance knowledge. Most classes have achieved a whole class performance of a 4-chord mash up song in 3 or 4 parts. It has been lovely hearing the vocal talent of year 7 and discovering a few beatboxers in the year. Year 8 have been learning about chords and melodic riffs on the ukulele and year 9 have been finishing their topics on musicals with a performance of 'My Shot' from Hamilton.

We have been incredibly impressed with the work from year 8s in the lead up to their ROA performances after Christmas. All students have been working hard developing their understanding of performance techniques alongside the knowledge of melody and harmony in popular music from the 1950s and 60s.



In KS4 the year 10s have been learning about the musical elements in more detail, alongside working on their solo performance and composition skills. Year 11 have been working towards their mock listening exam and milestone performance and composition deadlines. Some of our KS4 students have been given the chance to try DJ lessons this term. This has been a great success, with many of them choosing to DJ as part of the performance element of the course. We hope to be able to offer this as a peripatetic offer very soon.



Extracurricular wise, we have all been working towards our Winter Concert. Items from Orchestra, Woodwind Ensemble, Vocal Group, Avonbourne Advanced Ensemble and solos from KS4 will feature alongside performances from dance and drama.

Unfortunately, Vocal Group were unable to take part in the annual Bournemouth Schools Music Association Carol Concert this year as it was cancelled earlier in the term. However, we did submit a recording which will be streamed in the virtual concert in the last week of term on YouTube.

Looking ahead to next term we are introducing a new Music Production course to run alongside our Music Tech club. This will give our students the chance to gain a qualification and grade.

Avonbourne Advanced Ensemble are also going to be taking part in the Magna Sinfonia Platinum Jubilee Concert, performing British music alongside a semi-professional orchestra to celebrate the Queen's 70th anniversary on the throne. This will be alongside several other schools at Christchurch Priory on Saturday 12th February.



By Miss Little – Head of United Sixth Form

It was great to welcome Year 11 students and parents to the USF Open Evening on Thursday 25th November. Following a informative presentation on all that USF has to offer, our visitors were able to explore the USF facilities and speak with USF staff about the courses planned for September 2022. Students were also able to gain a valuable insight into Higher Education and employment thanks to our guests from the many USF partner institutions and companies in attendance. Our current Y12 and Y13 students were excellent ambassadors on the evening taking on various roles ranging from car park attendant to experiment demonstrator and are a credit to themselves and USF!



We are delighted that USF Year 12 are top of the Unifrog leaderboard out of 1,500 schools. What a fabulous achievement! Unifrog is an online programme used to research into courses, create personal statements and CVS and forms a key element of USF's preparation for the university applications process.



Year 13 Mock Examinations are scheduled in the last fortnight of term giving our students a chance to put all that hard revision into practice and demonstrate their knowledge! UCAS applications are underway and many of our Year 13 already hold conditional and unconditional offers for places next September ahead of the January deadline for submitting applications. **#USFproud!**

Rewards



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A huge congratulations to all those students that have been recognised in our end of term REACH Reward's Assemblies. Students are rewarded REACH Points for outstanding classwork and for displaying our REACH Values. All students that have achieved a Top 25 place will receive a certificate and the Top 3 students in each year group will be presented with an Amazon voucher.

	Class of 2028		Class of 2027		Class of 2026		Class of 2025		Class of 2024	
1 st	Kyrell	7AB2	Namo	8AB3	Regan	9AB2	Meshva	10RG7	Reyhan	11RG6
2 nd	Fabian	7AB5	Ceylin	8AG4	Callan	9AB2	Ruby-R	10RG8	Nathan	11RG2
3 rd	Shad	7AB5	Sseco	8AB6	Jvitesh	9AB2	Sharam	10RG7	Dain	11RG6

Praise must also go to the 18 tutor groups across Key Stage 3 who achieved an average REACH Score of 4.4 or above for this term. Classes are awarded a grade from 1-5 for their conduct and effort in every lesson and an average grade is collected at the end of every week and term. A special mention must go 8AG1 who have achieved a perfect score of 5, averaging 5 in every single lesson for the 14 weeks of the Autumn Term.

Are you struggling to afford essentials such as food and keeping warm?

TogetherWeCan



Don't suffer in silence. We are here to help you access food and support to keep warm over the winter period.

We can provide advice on:

- ✓ access to food through foodbanks and other community food support
- ✓ help with keeping warm this winter

For advice about **accessing food:**

→ bcpcouncil.gov.uk/householdsupport

For advice about **winter warmth:**

→ call Citizens Advice BCP: **01202 081732**

→ citizensadvicebcp.org.uk/winterwarmthsupport

bcpcouncil.gov.uk/householdsupport



Friends of Avonbourne Academies

Friends of Avonbourne Academies is a collective group of three schools in Bournemouth including the two secondary schools (Avonbourne Boys' and Girls Academies and the United Sixth Form (USF)). The Friends of Avonbourne Academies (FOAA), aim to raise money to provide the students at the Academies and Sixth Form with additional resources. All funds raised go directly to support students in their school lives.

We'd love to have more parents involved! If you are interested, please email

pta@avonbourneacademy.org.uk to find out the dates of next meetings.



Heads of Year



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Miss Barr – Head of Year 7 (Class of 2028)

It is hard to believe that the Class of 2028 have now completed their first term at the Avonbourne Academies and the Year 7 team couldn't be prouder of how they have transitioned to secondary school. We have certainly started to get to know lots of different personalities in the year group (!) and the number of pencil cases and PE kits that have temporarily gone missing is at an all-time high! Highlights from the term include some amazing bakes and cakes being sold for Children in Need and a fantastic set of fixtures results including wins against Glenmoor and Winton and Bournemouth Collegiate School. A huge well done for all students involved. We can't wait to see all the festive jumpers on Friday 17th December.

Tutor groups who have achieved excellent class REACH scores (and students from the other classes with excellent individual reach results) will be attending a festive quiz this week to celebrate an excellent term. Nominated students carry their REACH class score card to each lesson and teachers grade the class based on their demonstration of our REACH values (Respect, Enthusiasm, Ambition, Creativity and Confidence and Hard Work and Determination). Many tutor groups consistently score 5's for the lesson and their tutors are incredibly proud. As we move towards a well-deserved Christmas break it would be worth all Year 7's looking at the extracurricular offer we have here at Avonbourne which is all available on the website. We would love to see all students getting involved in at least one club in the Spring Term. Thank you for all the parent support this half term. We wish you all a magical Christmas and we can't wait to see the Class of 2028 at line ups on Thursday 6th January!

Mr Plunkett – Head of Year 8 (Class of 2027)

The year 8 team continue to be extremely proud of the class of 2027. Two of our assembly themes this half term were Compassion and Self-confidence. How delightful to witness our students develop these attributes not only through the curriculum and social times, but also by supporting whole school events, such as the Children in Need cake sale and Christmas Hamper appeal.

Furthermore, it has been lovely that students have had the opportunity to participate in sporting fixtures, in addition to the extra-curricular provision in all subject areas they have continued to attend frequently. Well done to everyone who has joined clubs and/or represented the academies.

A high point of the half term was reading the students applications for position of REACH ambassador. It was wonderful to learn about the experiences students have had in previous leadership roles, as well as seeing the ambition and ideas they have for this position. Congratulations to the thirty-five year 8's who have been successful in obtaining this role. I know under the careful guidance of Ms Jupe you will do an excellent job! As will Callum and Eva who have been chosen as Eco councillors! The weekly leader board for REACH points continued to be competitive with many names appearing on it as the weeks passed. At the time of writing Namu, Ceylin and Farai continue to lead the way for the termly totals. Well done also to Sseco for breaking in to the top 4! Finally, a reminder that next half term begins with the rank order assessment parent/carer launch event on 6th January. This is in preparation for students sitting their ROA's from 17th – 28th January. Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful Christmas. Mr Plunkett on behalf of the year 8 team

Mrs Thompson – Head of Year 9 (Class of 2026)

Yet again, this half term has been incredibly busy, and the year group have been working hard both inside and outside the classroom. We have had weekly sporting fixtures with large numbers of boys and girls taking on local schools in rugby and football. Many students were involved in the Children in Need bake sale, and it was great to see so many students bring food items in to help stock Christmas hampers for local families in need.

This half term saw the launch of the REACH Ambassador leadership programme and I had the difficult job of having to select the successful candidates from a collection of brilliant applications. This is a chance for students to develop their leadership skills, become role models for their peers and work on developing their volunteering, service, and community skills and for year 9 students, prepare for transitioning into the year 10 prefect role. Congratulations to all successful students and the year 9 team are looking forward to working with you and listening to the fantastic ideas I am sure you will have.

With the Rank Order Assessments rapidly approaching, please use this holiday to relax, spend time with family and friends, but also to get prepared. As mentioned in the ROA information evening, revision resources can be found in the year 9 TEAM. Thank you to all parents who attended this evening, it was lovely to see so many of you. I hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing everyone in 2022.

Mrs Adams – Head of Year 10 (Class of 2025)

What a busy and fast paced term for Year 10! Embarking on GCSE courses, getting settled into the demands of Key Stage 4 expectations, and putting in the work each and every day. What amazing young people our Year 10s are developing into! The year group are in a brilliant position to keep driving forward in the run up to their first set of exams in January and we look forward to hitting the ground running with revision and intervention sessions to support students on their return to school. Thank you to all students and parents who attended our Parents Information Evening on the 2nd of December, how fantastic it was to see so many of you there. It was a lovely event and a wonderful opportunity to discuss how far the school has come and outline our commitment to ensuring only the best for your child. I hope that we can all meet face to face again soon. Finally, please join me in congratulating those students who successfully applied to be Year 10 Reach Ambassadors. These students will hold special responsibility within the year group, and I know will be exceptional role models. I wish you all a restful and happy Christmas break when it finally arrives.

Miss Ball – Head of Year 11 (Class of 2024)

I have never been so #AVBproud – ever! From our whole school remembrance service which had impeccable behaviour and showed ultimate respect throughout to the first round of mocks, we have seen the cohort go from strength to strength and show us what outstanding young people they have become. There has been such a positive atmosphere from period 0 all through the day to period 6 with the cohort and students are being continually praised across the academies. The students are working exceptionally hard towards their futures, and more and more are successfully securing further educational setting places every day.

Mock results will be shared with students in a formal results day assembly, and they will each receive their envelope of results to mimic the true process of the summer series. Parents evening will then follow on both the 5th and 6th of January to enable detailed feedback and praise to be shared with parents along with students predicted grades. Attendance has continued to be a huge focus throughout the half term and those with 100% attendance, are entered into a reward draw for a free prom ticket! All guidelines on how students can be applicable will be shared with them, so they all have a fair chance to win. Tickets are also available to purchase through the school website for Thursday 14th July 2022. The high attendance to school is just a reflection of how determined the cohort are to be successful this year and I wish them every success!

Have a wonderful Christmas! Stay safe.

We would like to wish all our Avonbourne community a wonderful and well-deserved Christmas Holiday and a Happy New Year! We look forward to seeing Year 11, 12 and 13 on Wednesday 5th and all other year groups on Thursday 6th January 2022.

