



#AVBProud



From our Principal, Mrs Dyer

As we approach the end of this half term, I would like to thank students, staff, parents and friends of Avonbourne for their continued support.

We are #AVBProud of all our students, especially our Year 11 and 13 students who have made such a positive start to their GCSE and A-Level examinations. We wish them every success in their remaining exams.

Finally, term will end on Friday 24th May at the normal time of 3.25pm (3:45pm for Year 11) and we look forward to welcoming all students back to the Academies on Monday 3rd June. Wishing everyone a relaxing and enjoyable half term.

Michelle Dyer



Wishing all our Year 11's (Class of 2026) and Year 13's (Class of 2024) all the very best for their formal examinations.

We have been so impressed with their commitment and dedication to their studies and know they will continue to make us #AVBproud in the summer!





# Eco-Committee update

Summer term has soared as high as the sun shines!  
All the while, the Eco Committee have been busy establishing themselves in the school and in our community. In order to achieve our third consecutive Distinguished level Green Flag Award from the Eco Schools charity, the Eco Committee has created this Eco Code:

## Eco-Code

Eco Committee meets every Thursday at lunchtime;  
Nurturing our own plants in tutor time;  
Valuing our planet as a way of life;  
Investing in our future by caring today;  
Recycling crisp packets – not sending them to landfills;  
Opening our doors to guest speakers and charities;  
Not allowing litter to litter our school grounds;  
Making our way to school by walk or wheel;  
Everyone is responsible and involved;  
Nature is a part of our everyday lives;  
Trading used stationery for new ones.

We are #AVBproud to be Eco Friendly!



How many of the activities in the ENVIRONMENT acrostic poem do you do already? Selected Y8 students have teamed up with our careers team to support a garden project within the Avon Cliff care home grounds. Nicole enthusiastically shared that she felt: 'The love of gardening is a seed once grown that never dies.' This project will continue through the next half term, so watch this space grow!

## **Eco Tip: Turn it down. Turn it off. Shut it down. This is our United Learning maxim towards sustainability!**

If you can, **turn down** the thermostat to your boilers and taps! According to [Which?](#) You can safely operate your home combi boilers at 60C! If you have the ventilated or outdoor space to do so, air dry clothes and **turn off** the dryer – if you have one. Were you using our Winter top tip of using electric blankets? If so, the weather is better for you to **shut down** those winter coping devices.







### **Bronze:**

It's been an excellent half-term for bronze DofE, as students have got out on their practice expedition! Students were phenomenal on the expedition and were praised on how great they were by the APEX staff members. Moving forward students need to make sure they have uploaded all information onto eDofE and start getting assessors reports submitted. Further help with this can be found in the handbook sent out at the beginning of the year.

Look out for information regarding the assessed expedition coming up on 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> June.

### **Silver:**

Year 10 students had a great time out on their practice expedition, on a very sunny week! Their navigation skills were excellent, and we saw some very creative meals being cooked on the camping stoves.

Look out for information regarding the assessed expedition coming up on 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June.







### STEM Roadshow

BAE Systems, RAF and Royal Navy Stem Roadshow visited year 8 students and showcased an exciting performance on electricity this month. It was interactive with lots of props and experiments and highlighted several careers within Engineering.

### Work Experience 2024

We are excited that next month year 10 students will be heading out on their work experience placements. Careers at Avonbourne is confident that this will be a successful experience introducing students to the world of work.

### Community Garden Project

A community garden project with a local care home also began this month. Students visited the local care home to undertake some small gardening activities with the intention of designing a new outdoor space for the residents.

Next half term Careers at Avonbourne will also be welcoming volunteers from JP Morgan who will be interviewing our year 9 students. This will be a great opportunity for year 9 to practice their interview skills in a mock interview setting and be given valuable feedback to support with future interviews for work experience, college, sixth form and apprenticeship applications.



# MATHS

This term in maths we had the junior maths challenge, a national competition for the strongest mathematicians in years 7 and 8. Students in stream 1 and grammar stream of years 7 and year 8 partook in this challenge. All students who attempted the challenge showed amazing resilience while tackling very difficult maths problems.

In year 7, we saw 27 Bronze awards (top 50% of all participants), 14 Silver awards (Top 25% of all participants) and 4 Gold awards (Top 10% of all participants). Congratulations to Archie G-K (7GSB) and Kian T-A (7GSB) who both achieved the top in year award with their score of 93! All these awards are even more impressive when we consider that these students were competing against students in the year above them.

In year 8, we saw 40 bronze awards, 17 Silver awards and 5 Gold awards. Congratulations to Charlie C (8GSB) for achieving the best in school award with an incredible score of 112 (Riley N deserves to be mentioned with an impressive 108). These students will be rewarded with certificates to celebrate how well they did.

All students can be incredibly proud of how they did with this challenge!



Wednesday 22 May is National Numeracy Day – the UK's only day dedicated to everyday maths. We are celebrating this with a fun numeracy competition between tutor groups. Our children have been fantastic Number Heroes! They are building their confidence and skills with everyday maths.

In addition to this Many of our students are also taking part in Number Heroes Competition (11 to 13): With our younger students, we'll be sparking imaginations and conversations about using numbers and maths in our future dream jobs or hobbies. The lucky winners will receive a £50 voucher for themselves, as well as a £1,000 prize bundle for their school.



# Avonbourne Diversity Committee



We are pleased to announce that we have a new Diversity committee at Avonbourne! Our role is to promote diversity and inclusion and to ensure that every child feels an integral part of our big community.

Diversity ambassadors plan different cultural and religious celebrations to educate every student about the rich diversity in our school. Come and speak to us.

if you would like us to celebrate an event from your culture!!



# MUSIC

Summer term in the music department is always an exciting time as students prepare for their end of year assessments and have a chance to display all that they have learnt over the year. In year 7, students have been developing their understanding of Classical Structures alongside exploring the sonorities of the Instruments of the Orchestra. Students have been creating ensemble performances on the keyboard and progressing their performance skills throughout the assessment period.

In year 8 students have been composing this term, leading on from the Songwriting project in Spring term. Students have been creating their own variations of the Faded theme in pairs, ready to be assessed for the ROA. They have also developed an understanding of how music is developed from initial ideas and are able to demonstrate that musically and theoretically, ready for their ROA assessment next half term.

Minimalism has been the topic for year 9 music students this term. Students have established an understanding of how rhythmic and melodic cells are changed and manipulated in subtle ways. This inspired the future dance music that is so popular today and students will get a chance to learn about this next half term in our club dance project.

At KS4, our Year 11s have completed their coursework and NEA work. Congratulations to these students as they are now embarking on revising for their listening and appraising exam in the middle of June. Our Year 10 students are continuing their free composition and preparing for their end of year assessments. Students will begin their final performance project next term that will ensure they are ready for their first official performance assessment in Autumn term of year 11.

Extracurricular music opportunities continue to go from strength to strength this term. Earlier this term we hosted and informal tiny desk concert with our students who take part in Band Academy. Three bands performed over lunchtime in the library and showcased the performances they have been working on. We look forward to putting on more events like this in the future. We have also been invited to take part in the biannual SoundStorm Music Hub Festival. Thirty students across KS3 have been taking part in workshops with Bath Philharmonic to create a piece to perform at The Lighthouse on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July for their Summer Showcase. We will be collaborating with other schools across BCP next half term to prepare for the performance.

Finally, we have our last concert of the year as part of our **Arts and World Cultures Day on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024**. Please come along and support. More information about this will be communicated next half term.



# Safeguarding & Online Safety

## Advice for parents and carers

### Is being online affecting your child's mental health?

There are many positives to being online, but we do need to be aware of the negative aspects including those that may impact our child's mental health and wellbeing, for example:

- Social media (spending too much time on social media, comparing ourselves to others, filtered images and desire to achieve likes).
- Cyberbullying
- Seeing inappropriate content
- Constantly connected/information overload
- Excessive screentime
- Negative impact on our sleep

#### Further information

- Childnet discusses digital wellbeing in more detail and includes top tips and conversation starters: <https://www.childnet.com/help-andadvice/digital-wellbeing/>
- The NSPCC provides further information about mental health including signs to look out for and how to get further support: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mentalhealth/depression-anxiety-mental-health>

### Meet the team.

#### Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Natasha England  
Oliver Maund

#### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Jacob McKay – Education Social Worker  
Coralie Crisell

#### Main email address for the safeguarding team:

[safeguarding@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)

#### Designated Teacher for Looked After Children:

Natasha England  
[natasha.england@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:natasha.england@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)

### Talking to strangers online

There are many apps/websites where your child may come across strangers contacting them. Some platforms will allow you to set who can contact your child as well as switch off communication so ensure appropriate settings are explored and set up. This article from ThinkUKnow talks about how to protect your child from adult content and contact: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Concerned-about-yourchild/Online-contact-and-stayingsafe>

### Talking about online toxicity

Vodafone have published an article highlighting research which shows that “69% of preadolescent boys have encountered misogynistic content online”. This article discusses how to approach this issue with your child and what to do if they start repeating negative views seen online.

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscentre/smart-living/digital-parenting/how-to-talk-to-your-teenage-sons-about-online-toxicity>

### BCP's Knife Crime Awareness Campaign

This campaign seeks to highlight the importance of awareness and education about knife crime, as well as empowering parents and young people to have proactive conversations to reduce the risk of knives.

On 15<sup>th</sup> June a final event is due to take place in Bournemouth. In Bournemouth Town Centre Square and Gardens, between 11am and 4pm, there will be closing events activities, including live performance.

The Ben Kinsella Trust's week of action also takes place between 20<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

<https://www.knifecrimeawarenessweek.org.uk/>

### Exam Anxiety and Revision Support

The Mental Health Schools Team have put together some resources to support young people around looking after themselves and top tips for successful revision.

[https://mcusercontent.com/a8a5b42a486fe4c6b83f98b58/files/6dcbf9a8-80a3-b1f5-7065-7bc4881ee1f3/How to stay resilient during exam season.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/a8a5b42a486fe4c6b83f98b58/files/6dcbf9a8-80a3-b1f5-7065-7bc4881ee1f3/How_to_stay_resilient_during_exam_season.pdf)

[https://mcusercontent.com/a8a5b42a486fe4c6b83f98b58/files/e514e6ac-c3d1-24ce-c399-9a12e783fa94/Ultimate Revision Guide 3 .01.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/a8a5b42a486fe4c6b83f98b58/files/e514e6ac-c3d1-24ce-c399-9a12e783fa94/Ultimate_Revision_Guide_3_.01.pdf)





## TikTok

**You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok.**

TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. Some of the videos may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security/privacy settings are applied.

### Account set up

As always, it is important that when setting up an account, your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored to their age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and switching on restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings>

### Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode. You can find out more here:

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/>

### Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing.

### Trends and Influencers

We often see trends on social media, for example a latest trend found is around skin care routines, which can lead to children purchasing products that are completely unsuitable/dangerous for their skin. You can find out more here: <https://www.bark.us/blog/skin-care-tweens/>

Influencers are people who have a large following on social media who through recommendations and promotions, influence the behaviour or buying habits of others. The NSPCC discuss what we need to be aware of here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-05-16-the-influence-of-influencers/>

### Stranger contact

Talk to your child about who is following them online and ensure that they understand that people may not be who they say they are when online. It is important that children know not to share personal information.

### Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them, including how to report comments, direct messages and another user.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>



**Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

### HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

### HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

### PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

### A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, asocial and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

### IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

### PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

### SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

### TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for *Forbes*, *TechRadar* and *Wired*, among others.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



# HOUSE UPDATES



Recently the AVB houses have been hard at work trying to raise the most reach points possible, with Chesil only recently overtaking Brownsea for the leading house in REACH points. Many amazing events have also been taking place encouraging our students to get involved. We recently held a script writing competition where students were encouraged to write their own themed scripts with the winning one being performed at the upcoming Summer Concert, with the winner of this competition being Lisa B in 7D2/G. This term saw our students designing chocolate bar wrappers for the upcoming AVB Bars. There were hundreds of submissions, with the students really getting involved. The winners were: Brogan, Sophie, and Louise (10P1), Melissa and Roksana (7BG), Ruby and Maya (10C1), Samuel (9LB), Claire and Laila (9LG), Taiye and Georgie (7BG), Skye (7DG). Finally, the House heads have also recently held another of their HoH Celebration Lunches where students were rewarded with sweet treats, refreshments and games for their continued hard work and dedication within school. It was lovely seeing so many students turn up to play very competitive games of Kahoot or showing off their skills playing Badminton alongside music. Thank you to those who attended our FOAA and Head of House BINGO night. I am sure you will agree Mr Murphy has missed his calling as a Bingo caller! We raised just under £500 for the FOAA and look forward to seeing how that fundraising is spent next term!



# Dance

It has been a very busy and successful term for our Year 11 GCSE Dancers as they have reached the end of the course and now completed all practical elements. The students did fantastically well in their practical exam and there was an abundance of creative and original choreography work on display. We wish our Year 11 dancers the best luck now as they partake in their final revision lesson ready for their written exam in June.

The summer term dance curriculum is in full swing and key stage 3 students are exploring a variety of different dance styles. In Year 7 Dance we have been exploring the magic of musical theatre with students learning West End repertoire from musicals Matilda, & Juliet and Hairspray. In Year 8 we have been looking at 'The Nutcracker' by acclaimed British choreographer Matthew Bourne and focusing on students ability to show character through dance. In Year 9 we have been challenging ourselves to learn some challenging group dance choreography from the well-known TV series 'Dance Moms'. Good luck to our Year 10 students who are preparing for their first full GCSE Dance mock and first choreography assessment. Below we see a number of Year 10 students rehearsing their choreographies.





# REACH UPDATE






Congratulations to the following tutor groups who won a pizza lunch for their class last week. We look forward to rewarding the tutor groups with the highest totals for May, the first week back after the May half-term break.

|         |      |
|---------|------|
| Year 7  | 7L/G |
| Year 8  | 8P/G |
| Year 9  | 9P/G |
| Year 10 | 10P2 |
| Year 11 | 11T2 |

| Year Group Top 20 REACH - Summer Term 1 |                   |                 |              |             |              |               |              |              |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | Yr 7 AVG          | Yr 7 AVB        | Yr 8 AVG     | Yr 8 AVB    | Yr 9 AVG     | Yr 9 AVB      | Yr 10 AVG    | Yr 10 AVB    |
| 1                                       | B, Isabela        | J, Samheil      | N, Georgie   | T, Aryeah   | A, Rewa      | H, Oscar      | M, Margarita | S, Tharun    |
| 2                                       | R, Poppy          | A, Kingdavid    | D, Abigail   | C, Joseph   | H, Clarice   | B, Barnaby    | H, Grace     | G, Payton    |
| 3                                       | K, Salam          | C, Kushal Sujay | H, Siana     | C, Dominik  | K, Annemarie | M, Stan       | M, Sadaf     | B, Felix     |
| 4                                       | H, Lamar          | G, Riley        | G, Varsha    | N, Alex     | F, Theo      | O, Joshua     | C, Ellie     | A, Kelvin    |
| 5                                       | P, Kaya           | M, Ayanda       | A, Elizabeth | R, Jesus    | K, Emili     | A, Joshua     | C, Hoi Nam   | B, Joshua    |
| 6                                       | J, Amelia         | K, Maksim       | T, Rosa      | B, Divine   | B, Nina      | R, Benjamin   | F, Nicole    | P-C, Alex    |
| 7                                       | K, Polina         | S, Sai Pravith  | F, Nuala     | L, Aidan    | A, Adanna    | M, Lewis      | R, Holly     | A, Akhliddin |
| 8                                       | A, Suad           | A, Marzouq      | A, Aneeta    | Y, William  | B, Nadia     | A, Temilorun  | M, Yvonne    | S, Kobi      |
| 9                                       | S, Ivy            | N, Oliver       | B, Daisy     | P, Kushant  | O, Olivia    | K, Oli        | L, Jessica   | Z, Nikodem   |
| 10                                      | S, Sorina         | S, Erich        | M, Sassy     | S, Ayomikun | C, Carmen    | R, Alex       | P, Prachi    | B, Bodhi     |
| 11                                      | S, Emma           | W, Xavi         | W, Brooke    | F, Ritzy    | C, Phae      | S, Josh       | A, Meyra     | M, Theo      |
| 12                                      | L, Amber          | P, Omar         | S, Lily-May  | B, Levente  | E, Chidalu   | B, Blake      | D, Katy      | O'D, Anthony |
| 13                                      | K, Maja           | T, Kayden-Scott | E, Bella     | L, Riley    | M, Eva       | P, Nikki      | F, Iris      | T, Sseco     |
| 14                                      | H, Hollie         | K, Benjamin     | D, Sophia    | H, Alfie    | B, Imogen    | K, Aleksander | C-B, Mai     | T, Zac       |
| 15                                      | E, Charlotte      | K, Zyan         | W, Grace     | W, Brenin   | A, Stacey    | K, Mykola     | D, Grace     | A, Samuel    |
| 16                                      | R, Raifah         | R, Parnay       | U, Daniella  | E, Ethan    | S, Aleen     | A, Arthur     | D N, Vicky   | A, Tyler     |
| 17                                      | C, Greta          | S, Ryder        | M, Fiorella  | R, Jake     | L P, Soph    | W, Sam        | O, Damola    | N, Lucas     |
| 18                                      | F, Poppy-Isabella | B, Rhema        | S, Lilly     | C, Leandro  | J, Summer    | J, Bartosz    | B, Hettie    | F, Alvin     |
| 19                                      | M, Ziyanda        | J, Noel         | F, Summer    | P, Reuben   | O'D, Mia     | T, Peter      | G, Josie     | W, Harry     |
| 20                                      | M, Amv            | A, Kehinde      | R, Isabella  | A, Matias   | M, Emily     | O, Fabian     | D, Chinmavi  | K, Reece     |

In the race for the House Cup, Chesil are currently leading the way. However, this could all change next half-term as students compete for additional REACH Points and the House Sports Cup at the Academies Sports Days.

## Best House This Academic Year

|                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> |  |   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> |   |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> |   |    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> |  |   |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> |   |   |

# PE ACHIEVEMENTS UPDATE

Lily K in year 11 attended national finals in Gymnastics recently for the South West team. Her team came 8th overall and Lily's vault was 7th overall out of all the gymnasts that competed.



## BMX Superstar!

Zac T from Year 10 competed in the US last week at the BMX World Championships. He was placed 68th out of 128 in his age group and an incredible experience for him.





# FOAA

(Friends of Avonbourne Academies)

DATE OF NEXT  
MEETING

12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024  
6:30 PM BLOCK B  
LIBRARY

This term our fantastic FOAA have raised funds for a brand-new 3D printer in our Technology department which has been very gratefully received and used already by Ms. Sherwood-Taylor and our Tech students! FOAA have also funded our Chess club, a French Theatre visit, Dance kits, a brand-new nurture garden and wellbeing snug!

Just under £500 was raised at the recent BINGO night hosted expertly by our Head of House team with our very own Bingo caller Mr. Murphy.

Thank you to all of those who attended on the evening and wore house colours representing their houses!

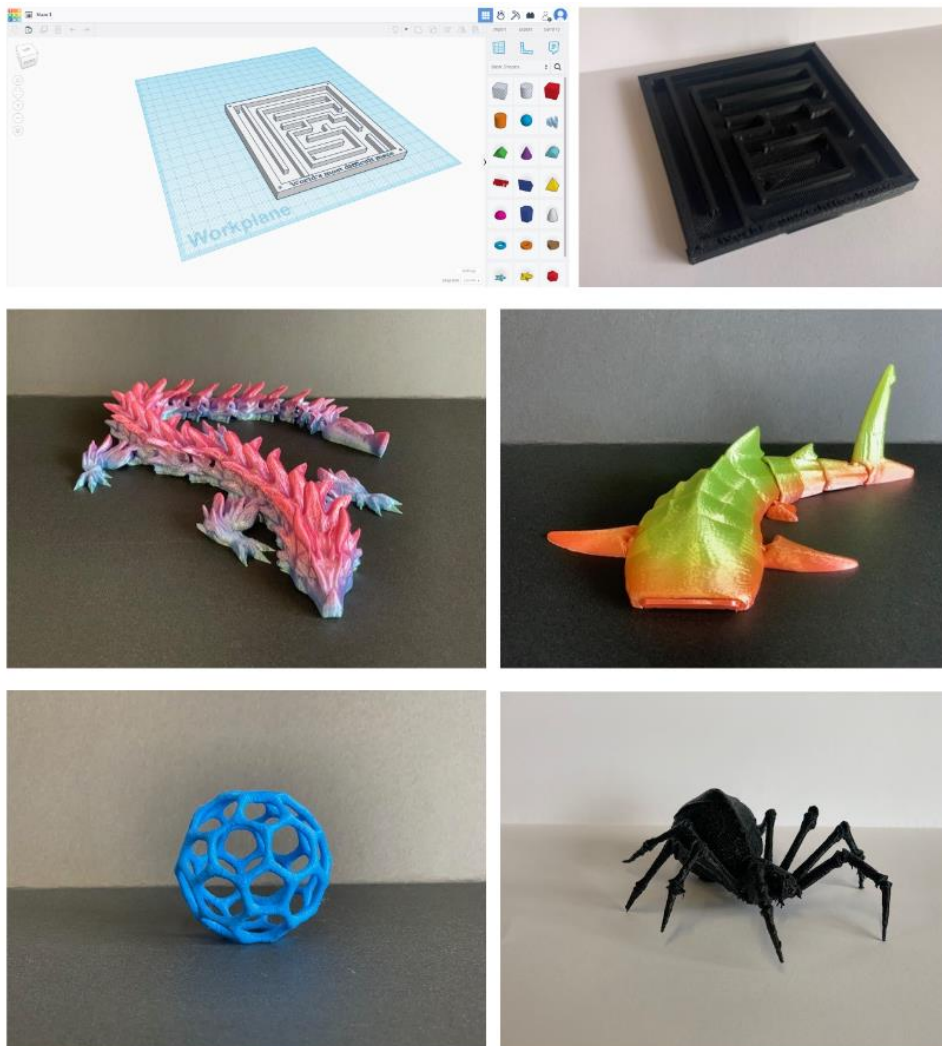
The FOAA have also secured discounted tickets for THORPE PARK on the Friday 5<sup>th</sup>



As always, **WE NEED YOU** to support our FOAA. At Avonbourne our PTA is made up of a very small group of parents and with further support we could run even more events which raise funds which go directly back to our Avonbourne community and students experience. Please come along to a meeting to find out more or if you have any fundraising ideas do contact [pta@avonbourneacademies.org.uk](mailto:pta@avonbourneacademies.org.uk)

# 3D Printing!!

The DT department was thrilled that the PTA were able to fund a new 3D printer for us. We've been spending the term getting to grips with it and already students have been printing their own projects, learning how to change filaments, and run the printer, and designing their own products using Tinkercad. Here's some examples of the printing that we've been able to do so far:





## HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THE FOAA?

We are always on the lookout for helpers at events or for more parents to join our committee. If you don't have the time to help, you can still support us in other ways:

1. Make a donation – regular or one-off donations can be made via this link [www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20477530](http://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20477530)
2. Buy lottery tickets via this link [Support Friends of Avonbourne Academies when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)
3. Use easyfundraising for all your online shopping. Sign up via <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/avonbourneacademies>
4. Donate a raffle prize to our next event...

A huge well done to Jonathan and Alfred from Y8 who both were selected to play in the first match of the season for Dorset U13 against Wiltshire at Westbury CC.



**Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

## OPEN MORNINGS

Avonbourne is one of the only local Academies to offer weekly Open Mornings. Prospective parents and students are invited to look around our Academies with a student tour followed by Q&A with members of our Leadership team. Please scan the bar code below to get booked on in the Summer Term.

Avonbourne Boys' and Girls'  
Academy Open Mornings -  
Summer Term 2024



## Mrs Thomson – Head of Year 7 (Class of 2030)

Year 7 have had a busy half term. It's amazing how quickly the half term flies by. As students become more settled in the school and lessons, it is time for them to look back over everything they have learnt and get prepared for the Rank Order Assessments they are due to sit on their return after the half term break. We had a fantastic turnout for the ROA launch for parents, thank you to all those who attended. Hopefully this evening provided information on how the assessments work and what parents can do to support their children. Students were also provided with similar information so that they are able to develop their own organisation skills and resilience to help get them through their first exam experience at Avonbourne. Students were provided with revision packs and were shown how to access revision resources on TEAMS.

In addition to preparing for exams, students, as always, have been getting involved in the extracurricular programme. It was lovely to see so many students visit Winchester Cathedral for the RS trip. Students were impeccably behaved and had wonderful feedback from the staff who attended. A handful of students were also involved in the creative choir workshop, they had a fantastic time. Finally, a huge shout out to the boys' football team who reached the Town Cup Final against Bournemouth School for Boys. Unfortunately, despite an outstanding effort, the final score did not go Avonbourne's way.

Well, done year 7 for another brilliant half term. Enjoy your break, revise lots and I look forward to seeing everyone return for their final half term of year 7. Mrs Thomson and the year 7 team

## Mr Taylor – Head of Year 8 (Class of 2029)

I can't believe that I am sitting down and writing the end of half term article already, it is scary to think that in 7 weeks that we are going to be transitioning into year 9. It is fantastic to see that the Class of 2029 are buying into the REACH values and partaking in so many clubs here at the academy. From Chess, Music, Robotics and P.E, there is something for everyone. I regard to our sporting fixtures, this saw us bow out of the town cup after a couple of difficult fixtures, but the boys showed great character and determination to compete. The beginning of this summer term saw the start of our cricket club which has had over 40 boys and girls attending. It saw us win our first game comfortably and puts us in a nice place going into the Dorset County Cup and Bournemouth Cup which I am excited to see what we can do as we have some extremely talented cricketers.

Year 8 were welcomed by the RAF who did a fantastic assembly on electricity. This was extremely engaging and lots of students were involved in the presentation and practical elements. They were extremely respectful and did the academy proud with their behaviour. Another aspect where Year 8 pupils represent the academy fantastically well is with our tours, with year 5 and 6 pupils looking to transition they have taken a lead on touring prospective parents. We receive endless amounts of positive praise for those students who do this. The house ambassadors have also been busy going over to our feeder primary 'Avonwood' to do a bit of cooking with the students, the feedback we have had is fantastic. After half term sees the start of our ROA period for year 8s, from our last set of exams the feedback regarding the pupil's conduct was brilliant and I look forward to this continuing. Please encourage your son/daughter to revise over the exam period, they should have been given revision guides during tutor time.

## Miss Jupe – Head of Year 9 (Class of 2028)

The year 9 team continues to be extremely proud of the progress, maturity, and hard work of the year 9 student during this term. It has been amazing to witness how the year 9 students have adapted so well and shown true professionalism throughout their end of year exams this term. It has been a joy to speak to students regarding their revision sessions inside and outside the classroom and how much effort they have dedicated to their exams to go above and beyond. This term year 9 have also experienced their first taster of the DoFE trial expedition. I do hope all students who participated had a wonderful time and learnt some new and useful skills. The year team were proud to hear how polite, well-behaved, and thoughtful all students were during this event.

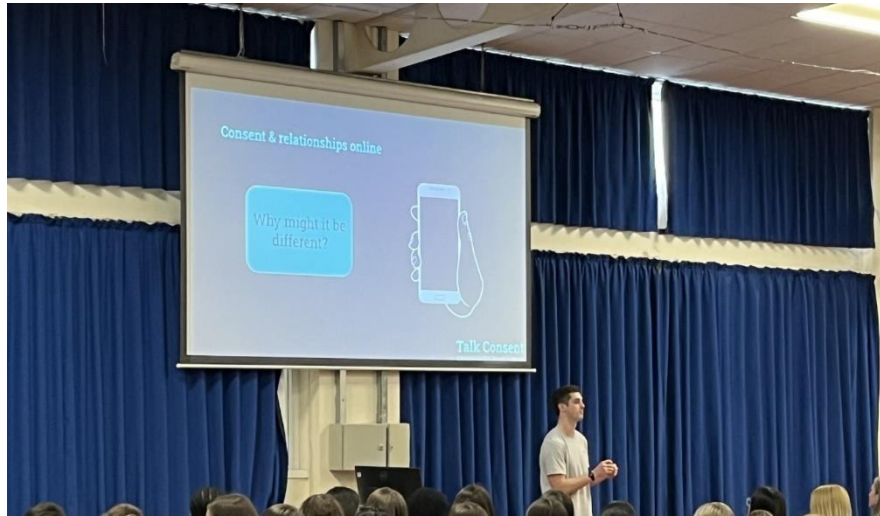
Well done to Olivia O and Peter Tand who had received the most REACH points this term. This term Year 9 Chesil boys and Year 9 Purbeck girls received the most REACH points overall for behaviour, classroom, and attitude to learning. Well done! The year 9 team wishes everyone a wonderful and restful half term. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back for our last term of the academic year.



## Mr Ryan – Head of Year 10 (Class of 2027)

Each time I write the summary of the half term, I always start with, it's been another busy half term, and once again, it has been another busy half term.

We started the half term with a talk from external providers about consent. This covered a range of topics relating to definitions, clarifying common misconceptions, analysing different scenarios, and looking at online relationships.



We had 23 pupils participate in their Silver Duke of Edinburgh skills and practice expedition. They were very lucky with the weather and from all accounts had a great time. We wish them luck for the assessed expedition.

We also had some budding sports stars in amongst our ranks:

### County Track & Field Trials

*Adam A-G* – 6<sup>th</sup> in 1500m

*Saffi B* – 1<sup>st</sup> in 100m and 1<sup>st</sup> in Long Jump

*Sseco T* – 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100m and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 200m

### National Snowboarding & Skiing Championships

*Poppy B* – 7<sup>th</sup> in Slalom and 1<sup>st</sup> in Snowboarding

### World BMX Championships

*Zac T* – Came 68/150 for U16

### County Track & Field Championships

*Saffi B* – 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100m

*Kacper K* – Qualified for England Fishing Team

Congratulations to these individuals and good luck for future competitions.

The cohort have continued with their GCSE content as the Year 11s then started their Public Exams. At the end of this half term, the Year 10s have their English, Maths and Biology EOY exam. After we return, we will have several weeks of EOY exams. Good Luck to all for their exams and remember to do your best, but also give yourself the best opportunity, revision, sleep and being prepared are all key.

## Mr Nash – Head of Year 11 (Class of 2026)

10 SCHOOL DAYS TO GO!! This year has gone by so quickly. Your children have been a credit to you, they have been excellent and have handled the pressure of GCSEs admirably. As you are aware, there are half term revision sessions in preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the GCSE season. These really will make a difference to the outcomes of the GCSEs. Miss Underdown and Miss Solano have the prom under control, and it will be an amazing night for all who attend. Apparently, I will be wearing a glittery pink tie!! A letter will soon be coming home regarding the arrangements for the final day of Year 11. The letter will outline the plans for the final big day and what we will be doing afterwards. The leaves hoodies have been ordered and their estimated delivery date is the 10<sup>th</sup> June.

I huge thank you must go to all of the parents and carers for the support they have given to not only your children, but also to the school. We could not do what we do, if it was not for your support during the most important year of their academic life so far.

I wish you all a great half term and hopefully, the sun will shine.



**Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

**Wishing all our Avonbourne community a wonderful half term break!**  
**We look forward to seeing all year groups on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 8:30 am.**



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

Call 01202 398 451 or email [office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)

Harewood Avenue, Bournemouth, BH7 6NY



Follow us on Twitter [@AvonbourneUL](https://twitter.com/AvonbourneUL)  
Follow us on Facebook [@ULavonbourneacademy](https://www.facebook.com/ULavonbourneacademy)  
Follow us on Instagram [@avonbourneacademy](https://www.instagram.com/avonbourneacademy)