



Avonbourne Academies

#AVBPROUD

FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL Mrs Dyer

As we approach the end of the first half-term of this new academic year, I would like to thank our school community: students, parents, staff and stakeholders for the positive start we have had. The students look incredibly smart in their new uniforms, they have settled back well into the routine of being back to school and it has been lovely to welcome our new Year 7 and Year 12 cohorts into the Avonbourne family.

It has been lovely to be able to see our students enjoy the numerous and varied extra-curricular activities that we now have on offer each day. Our sports teams have begun their first fixtures and our student leadership team have been great ambassadors at our many events that have been hosted for parents and visitors.

Many thanks to those who have supported our recent information evenings and to those who have joined our PTA: Friends of Avonbourne Academy.

Please do follow us on [Facebook and Twitter](#) or watch the website for details of upcoming events.

I would like to remind students and parents that we break up for half term on [Thursday 21st October \(Friday 22nd being a staff training day\)](#) and we look forward to welcoming students back at 8.30am on [Monday 1st November](#).

Wishing you all a safe and restful break,

Mrs Dyer

This term, we are
#AVBproud of Lilly C
9AG1

Lilly attended Enterprise Club last year and during the holidays took it upon herself to create a new product - the shell bracelet- which she sold via her own stall at the beach. Lilly has been able to develop some great transferable skills from this experience.

Well done Lilly!





DofE Update

Over the summer D of E Bronze award students have chosen their physical, skill and volunteering activities and those are well under way in their own time. In our after school sessions, expedition training has begun with students learning about the countryside code, practising putting up a tent, and packing it away again. We also discussed how to put up a tent when it's raining, or very windy – our expeditions take place in all sorts of weathers!

Miss Sherwood
Taylor, D of E Lead



Careers Update

Year 11 and Destinations

At the very end of the summer term and the start of the new academic year, the priority has been meeting with Year 11 students, one to one.

This is a vital time for them to be making informed choices about their next steps. Local sixth forms and colleges are holding a variety of open events to give them the opportunity to visit in order to find out more about the courses they offer.

Many students already know what they want to do for a career in the future and this is helping them to plan accordingly. It is important to note that as in any situation, those reviewing applications are going to think the candidate more organised and efficient if they submit their application in good time ahead of any deadlines.

For any of young people who have not yet conducted their own research, this is something to address as a matter of priority. There is a huge variety of opportunities posted each week on the Team for the Class of 2024 which they should also consider.



From the Direct Instruction Hub

On behalf of the United Learning's Direct Instruction Hub, we would like to congratulate all our previous DI students for their fantastic achievement in Direct Instruction and the amazing feedback from their core teachers having completed the Direct Instruction programme. We wish them all success in all their education and beyond! #AVBProud #TeamDI

Mrs. Wybrow and Mr. Surrey
Directors of Direct Instruction for United Learning



Wellbeing Hub

This year, Avonbourne has opened a new Wellbeing Hub to support students social, emotional, and mental health barriers. The hub uses a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) approach, which focuses on how thoughts, beliefs and attitudes affect feelings and behaviour; and teaches student's coping skills for dealing with different problems. The hub has two aims: to support students with barriers around mental health and wellbeing and to intervene with students who are 'not getting it right' regarding their attitude to learning and behaviour.

Interventions are one-to-one and empowers all young people to develop the fundamental social and emotional learning skills, which will enable them to make positive choices throughout life. Interventions are bespoke and tailored to the young person's needs.

Working alongside this, the school ELSA's (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants) offer students courses on friendship, self-esteem, exam stress and overwhelming emotions. We also have our very own anxiety workbook for students to work through if they feel stressed or worried, The MISTER SAD guide. This guide is available from Heads of Year and can be completed at home with another adult or independently for Year 10s and 11s.

The Avonbourne student Instagram was also launched this month @AVONBOURNEWELLBEING. Here, you can see what we are doing in the Wellbeing hub, learn wellbeing strategies and be signposted to external agencies that can support students' mental health.



This half term in PSHE we have launched our new curriculum. Students have made every effort to get stuck in to topics and take part in in-depth conversations in the classroom.

Our year 7s have started the year exploring values and are moving onto how these values can influence their lives, friendships and online presence. Our year 8s have been exploring consent, sexting and managing conflict. Year 9 have been studying consent and sexual abuse and harassment. Year 10 have been studying relationships with their tutor and have also had a session with PSHE specialists about the impact of pornography and abuse. Year 11 will be looking at consent in PSHE this term.

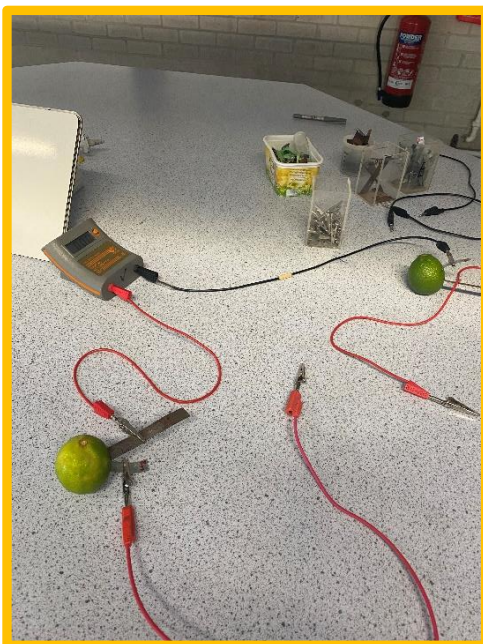
A very big well done to all of year 10 who displayed impeccable behaviour and effort when having their session on the impact of pornography and abuse this half term. Their effort and conduct around the school during this time set a fantastic example to the rest of the school. We look forward to inviting guest speakers into the school next term for our students.



CHARACTER EDUCATION

We have an array of extracurricular activities offered every day at Avonbourne to develop students' character skills outside of curriculum lessons. It has been a pleasure to see students engaging in these activities and working towards performances, competitions, and projects. Here are just a few of the fantastic things our students are getting involved with this term.

CREST Club



CREST club with year 7 and 8 started with an introduction into how to run a scientific investigation. We ran an experiment to find out which fruit generated the largest potential difference using different citrus fruits. We found out that it was limes (although some of the fruits were more co-operative than others!). We've now begun working on our CREST projects where students are working to plan their own investigation and then run a practical of their choice - ideas include investigating parachute design by dropping eggs, water rockets and how to make the fizziest bath bomb.

Ms Keylock

Debating

At debate club students have creatively debated the idea of the UK being an ableists state, whether society promote facilities and pathways to improve our physical and mental health and lasty, we have debated life on Mars. Debate club has signed up to its first competition with the English-Speaking Union: these are exciting times for our debaters who can showcase their talents and skills on the art of debating.

Ms Jupe



Reading and Newspaper

This term in reading club we have been reading Run Rebel as part of the Carnegie Book Awards. We are now reading 'Hunger Games.' We have also started designing our own Arenas. In Newspaper Club we have been learning how to use Photoshop to make our articles look as professional as possible. Thanks to Mr Kelly for your support with this.
Ms Halle



Russian Club

For the first time in Avonbourne our students can learn Russian in our very well-attended afterschool club on Thursdays. We have started off with learning how to sustain a basic conversation in Russian, asking and answering questions, and we are currently working hard to decode and memorise the 33 letters of the Cyrillic alphabet.

Apart from learning how to communicate, read and write in Russian, we are planning to explore the Russian culture, learn about traditions and celebrations and cook and try Russian food. What an exciting and delicious journey ahead we have!

same letter - same sound	ah А	buh Б	vuh В	guh Г	duh Д	yeh Е
same letter - different sound	yo Ё	zhuh Ж	zuh З	ee И	ey Й	kih К
unfamiliar letters - familiar sounds	luh Л	muh М	nuh Н	oh О	puh П	rr Р
	suh С	th Т	ooh У	fuh Ф	khuh Х	tsuh Ц
unfamiliar letters - unfamiliar sounds	chuh Ч	shuh Ш	shoooh' Щ	hard sign Ъ	uh Ы	soft sign Ь
	eh Э	yoooh Ю	yah Я			



Camera Club



In Camera Club we have been working on confidence with the DSLR cameras. We have focused our time on two shoots: Distortion and Flat Lays. Students have then edited each shoot to ensure they have the best final image. Over the next few weeks, we will start to look at aperture and shutter speed and how these both affect our photographs.

Orchestra

In orchestra we have been preparing for our Winter Concert. We are learning the Hungarian Dance by Brahms and next half term we are going to be starting our Christmas repertoire. We've been focusing on refreshing the expectations of ensemble playing, ensuring we understand how important it is to tune our instruments alongside listening to each other when we are playing.

Vocal Group

This term in vocal group we are working on repertoire to perform in the BSMA virtual concert and our school Winter Concert. We are currently working on 'Somewhere Only We Know' in three-part harmony. We also like to end every session with a karaoke Christmas sing along to get us in the mood for the festive season.

Music Production

We have been getting to grips with Mixcraft and Soundtrap in our weekly sessions. The main focus of this term has been learning how to sequence independently. Students are encouraged to continue developing their work at home and each week we learn a new skill that the software can support with creating.





Spanish and French Booster Club



This term, Year 10 students have been extremely dedicated to their language studies. With Mr Bever, students have been revising the past tense and the speed with which Year 10 girls can conjugate Etre verbs in the past tense is a sight to behold! Whilst in Spanish with Miss Newnham, students have been building up their confidence with their pronunciation as well as their present tense verb conjugations to improve the quality of their writing and speaking. Well done on your dedication to boosting your language skills this term Year 10!

Basketball

We have had a fantastic turnout which grows every week at Year 9 Basketball! From students with experience to those students brand new to the sport, I've seen brilliant development in the players. We've covered basics such as dribbling, defensive skills, and shooting. Students have shown an appreciation of the hard work that goes into playing a game and have displayed great determination and passion for the sport. We continue to learn and laugh every week and look forward to potential fixtures in the future. Ms Heaver

PE Department

It has been a fantastic start to the school and extra-curricular program. The focus this term has been on participation, linking into the PE curriculum strand of 'Fit for Life'.

Students have been able to attend Basketball, Football, Netball, Tennis, Badminton, Gymnastics, Rugby, and Fitness clubs. The sporting facilities have been buzzing with activity with close to 100 students attending during each day. Year 9 students have already competed in their first Rugby fixture against Glenmoor and Winton showing huge promise. As we head further into the term, students can make links to the 'Fit to Perform' strand competing in year group competitions and school fixtures.

Students have also been participating and competing in events outside of school, with many now regularly attending the Bournemouth Park Run on a Saturday morning. Please keep us updated on all the events and activities you are getting up to outside of school and we look forward to hearing about your achievements.





Young Enterprise

In Enterprise Club we are busily creating professional business pitches, rather like Dragons' Den on television. The students have all researched a new piece of technology and are planning an impressive launch to the marketplace. There are some original and creative ideas emerging already. Before the half term break all the would-be entrepreneurs will pitch their concept and receive constructive feedback. Although this is great fun it also helps students to develop their employability skills too, such as presenting and communication.

Ms Loughnan

Student Leadership Update

Our Senior Prefects and Prefects have been busy supporting with open evenings and taster days, alongside developing fundraising and community projects for next term. The prefects launched the Avonbourne Sustainability Project earlier this month to raise awareness of the ways we can recycle in the school day. We will continue to develop this project throughout the rest of this term. We will also be fundraising for Children in Need in November and working with Bournemouth Foodbanks to create Christmas Hampers across the school for those in need over the festive period in our local community.





This week we launched our REACH Ambassador programme open to all students in years 7-10. This is a leadership opportunity for students that consistently display the REACH Values alongside the qualities and attributes of the Avonbourne Way. We want to recognise these behaviours and encourage these students to be role models within our school community. REACH Ambassadors will support their year team leads with year group activities or projects and also be involved in student voice. Applications are due in on **Friday 5th November**. The year teams and I are very much looking forward to reading the applications and hearing all the fantastic ideas our students have to improve our student community.



Miss Burrows

SPARX KS3 Maths Homework

We are reaching the end of the first autumn term and most students have engaged really well with the Sparx Homework. There is still some work to be done with some students not completing their homework to our high expectations. Just a reminder that Compulsory and XP Boost tasks should both be completed to 100% and we, Maths teacher, are always ready to support your children to achieve this.

Congratulations to 8AG1 and 9AB1 who had 100% completion last week on Compulsory and XP Boost. Keep up the good work! Also, excellent work to 7AB5, 8AB1 and 8AG3 who completed their Compulsory tasks to 100%. I am hoping to see more classes reaching higher completion rates.



Avonbourne climbs to the top of the NATIONAL Seneca leaderboard!

This half term we have rolled out Seneca Learning as homework for all year groups. Seneca offers high-quality free online learning courses for students to study from a computer, tablet, or phone, and uses smart learning algorithms to help students remember topics better. It is the fastest growing homework platform in the UK.

Throughout 2021 we have been getting used to sitting near the top of the United Learning Seneca leaderboard due to the hard work of years 10 and 11 and the USF last year. With the whole school now regularly using Seneca we are delighted to be at the top of the national leaderboard for number of learning sessions completed. Our students really are the hardest working in the country!

School	Completed Study Sections
1. Avonbourne Girls Academy	179,860
2. Bexleyheath Academy	98,755
3. Avonbourne Boys' Academy	88,445
4. Bacon's College	80,289
5. The John Roan School	75,737

This week we have come together as a school community to celebrate the hard work of all students. For many students they have used great initiative in attending Seneca surgeries and communicating with their teachers to sort any teething issues with their accounts and logging in. With all students now set up on Seneca we look forward to a smooth Autumn 2, seeing even higher completion rates. Any student that has difficulties accessing their Seneca account should speak to their tutor in the first instance.

If you are having any problems with logging into SENECA, please speak to your form tutor or Head of Year.

Your login details are the same that you use to access school computers.

Congratulations to all students who have made the Academies' leaderboards:

Avonbourne Boys' Academy Leaderboard

Total study time:

1. Colin C Y10
2. Sseco T Y8
3. Matt S Y8
4. Ross C Y7
5. Kobi S Y8
6. George S Y9
7. Kevin P Y10
8. Jamie G Y11
9. Josh T Y10
10. Jamie T Y10

Number of correct answers:

1. Rajveer H Y10
2. Emilis V Y7
3. Hugo P Y7
4. Toni F V Y10
5. Lucas E Y7
6. Caleb M Y8
7. Thomaz d S Y9
8. Henry B Y7
9. Oliver R Y9
10. Max B Y7

Avonbourne Girls' Academy/USF Leaderboard

Total study time:

1. Ayesha J Y8
2. Elizabeth P Y7
3. Grace H Y8
4. Maria X M Y9
5. Chloe B Y9
6. Nadia S Y8
7. Perri W Y8
8. Lucy I C Y11
9. Sienna T Y10
10. Beth W Y11

Number of correct answers:

1. Alice R Y11
2. Courtney J Y11
3. Alice R Y11
4. Elizabeth O-A Y9
5. Kristen C Y10
6. Jack S USF
7. Saharr J Y9
8. Hollie J Y8
9. Emma M Y9
10. Daisy D I Y7

Mr Kidman, Avonbourne Seneca Lead, commented, 'It has been fantastic to witness the progress students have been making in getting accustomed to Seneca this half term and the impact this is having in the classroom. Teachers are setting Seneca tasks that revisit prior learning to help embed knowledge in the long-term memory and to support current topics in class. We know that hard work breeds success, and I am delighted that the students at Avonbourne are receiving national attention for how hard they are working. Keep up the hard work!'

Hegarty Maths

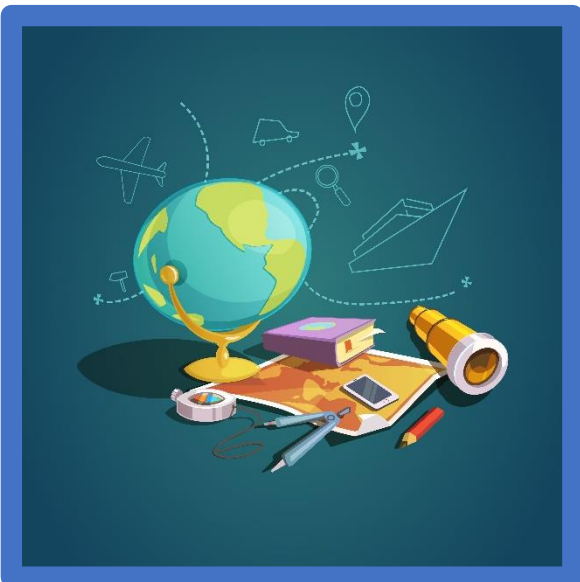
Big **congratulations** to year 10 and year 11 for their Hegarty Homework this half term. The Avonbourne Girls are ranked 2nd in the UL Trust league table and 4th Nationally with the boys close behind them in 5th and 12th place. A very special mention to Kristen Cheung in Year 10 who is the top student in the whole of the United Learning Trust for skills done well (>80%)



GEOGRAPHY

It has been a busy term for Key Stage 3 geographers. Year 7 have been getting to grips with geographical skills, year 8s have been studying tectonic hazards and year 9 are evaluating the causes, impacts and management strategies of climate change.

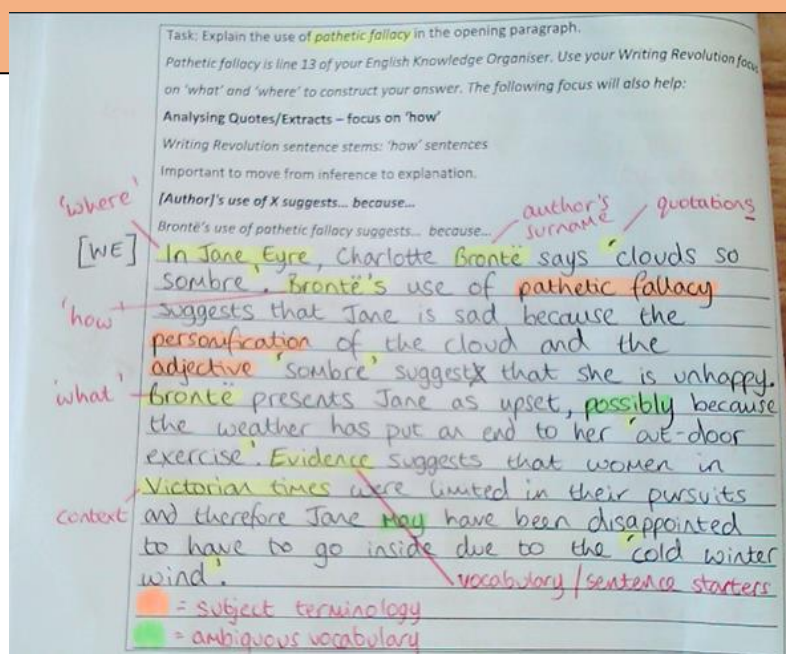
Climate change is dominating the news headlines every day as the UK prepares for the UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP 26) taking place in Glasgow from the 31st of October. Which is why there isn't a better time for our year 9 geographers to be learning about the issues that we are facing now and the issues that they will be facing in the future. To further support the Year 9 students Ms Carmichael has partnered with Southampton University to organise PHD students to visit us at the Avonbourne Academies and tackle this issue with our students. On the week beginning November 15th the PHD students will be visiting 12 of our year 9 classes and facilitating a series of workshops on Climate Change. This will be an amazing experience for our students, and it couldn't be coming at a better time.





A very busy half-term has seen some incredible work happening throughout the English department. Year 7 have been studying the Bronte sisters and the novel Jane Eyre. There have been some fabulous essays about the Bronte sisters through all classes but worth of special notice are those by Victoria K, Maya O, Lacey M, Nina B, Spencer C, Nauman D and Kielan W. Mr Helson is very proud of 7AG5's academic writing (see image). Year 8 have been studying Animal Farm with some great work by Summer C, Nadia S, Enian D and Namor R. Year 9 have been studying poetry and 9AB4 have produced some brilliant poems of their own. Years 10 and 11 have been working hard on Macbeth and English Language. Year 12 have really taken to the extra work and insight required of A Level and year 13 English Literature have had a very strong term.

There have also been a range of extra-curricular activities in English; Reading Club, Newspaper Club, and Creative Writing Club. The pupils attending Debate Society have been articulating themselves formally and with erudition on a range of topical and important subjects such as ableism, feminism and, whether we should be going to Mars. The English department are also pleased to announce that a year 11 Scholars Lunch will begin after half-term on the Tuesday of Week B; each week students will discuss a critical article which will help them develop more insightful analysis of their GCSE texts.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

After school clubs are a great way for students to gain confidence, improve their skills and meet other like-minded people. Students are encouraged to explore different activities and discover an enjoyment of physical activity, beyond the 'classroom' activities. At Avonbourne Academies students are welcome to attend all clubs that are relevant to their age group to explore the activity, take part in competition or to make new friends.

It has been a great start to the school year with large numbers attending extra-curricular clubs: the fields, courts and sports halls have been buzzing with activity. As the numbers attending clubs grew, we saw the return of competitions. Students have been participating in football, netball, gymnastics and cross-country events. This term has also seen students represent the Academy in competitive matches rugby matches against Glenmoor and Winton, and Twynham School. For many students, this has been their first experience of rugby games and have shown huge levels of resilience. As the Autumn term continues, there will be more opportunities to represent the Academies in competitive sport.

We would like to challenge all children to take part in at least one after school PE club before Christmas. We can encourage students to develop their interests through the extra-curricular program. Students can attend to develop their personal performance, coaching skills or to learn to officiate the activity.

The boys' timetable is currently:

Monday	Rugby Yr 7	Football Yr 8	
Tuesday			
Wednesday	Rugby Yr9	Football Yr 7	Basketball Yr 9
Thursday	Rugby Yr8	Football Yr 9	
Friday	Racket Club All Years	Football Yr 10	

The girls' timetable is currently:

Monday	Netball Yr7	Netball Yr 8 JTA	
Tuesday			
Wednesday	Netball Yr 9	Netball Yr 10	Girls Rugby yr 7 & 8
Thursday	Football Yr7&8	Gymnastics all years	
Friday	Racket Club All Years	Football Yr 9&10	



We welcome feedback and will do what we can to ensure the extra-curricular program is varied, reflects the needs of our students and is accessible to all.

Avonbourne Winter Concert

Tuesday 14th December

Showcasing the talents of
the dance, drama and music
departments

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

www.avonbournegirlsacademy.org.uk

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



ART



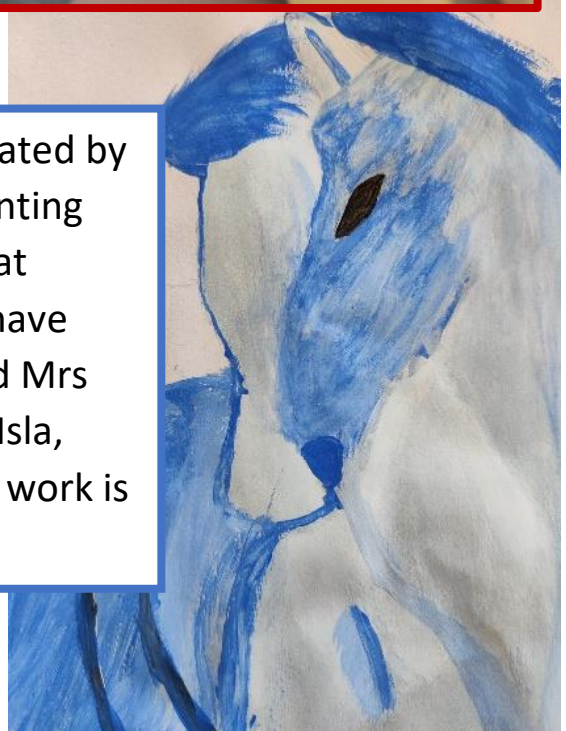
Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies
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Part of United Learning



Fake blood, scars, bruises, and black eyes. Students in year 9 with an interest in special effects make-up are loving the sessions being run by the talented Miss Dashwood in the art department.



Fantastic painting skills demonstrated by students attending the year 7 painting club on Wednesday. This is a great opportunity to extend what you have learnt in lessons with the talented Mrs Woodward. Well done to Lorna, Isla, Freya, Olivia and Sophie O whose work is featured here.



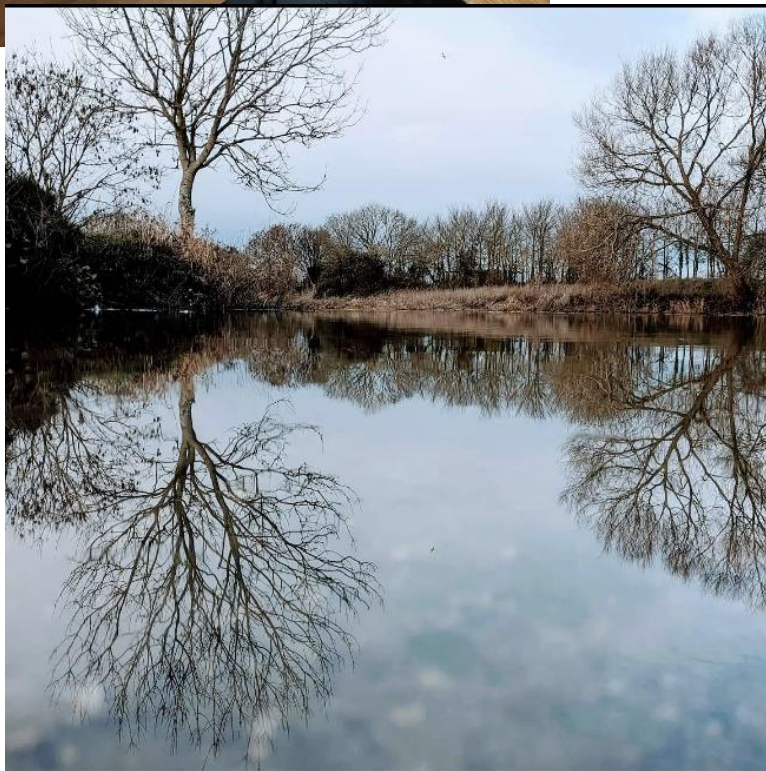
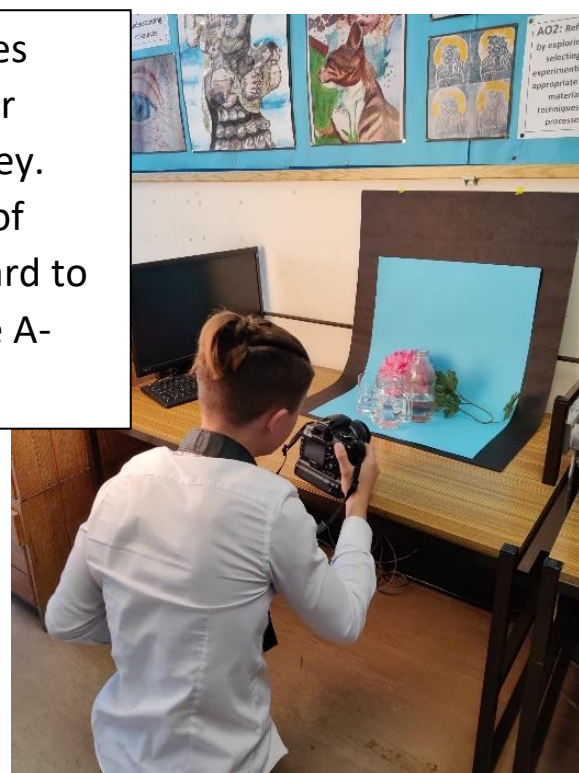
Take a look at Creative Careers!



Students in year 9 and year 11 are being told about the abundant opportunities offered in the UK creative industries in their art lessons. We are so lucky to have one of the top universities for creative subjects on our doorstep right here in Bournemouth. We're really looking forward to visiting AUB in Wallisdown again this year!

Arts U

Amazing photography opportunities offered to our year 9 students after school by the talented Mrs McKinley. Photography is an important part of GCSE Art and we are looking forward to welcoming the class of 2024 to the A-Level photography course.



Lots of great competitions running this term in the Art department. The **United Learning Christmas card competition**, deadline 21st October. Also, the **Rotary photography competition with the theme of 'Colours in Nature'**. Lots of great cash prizes, check out Alice W's entry!



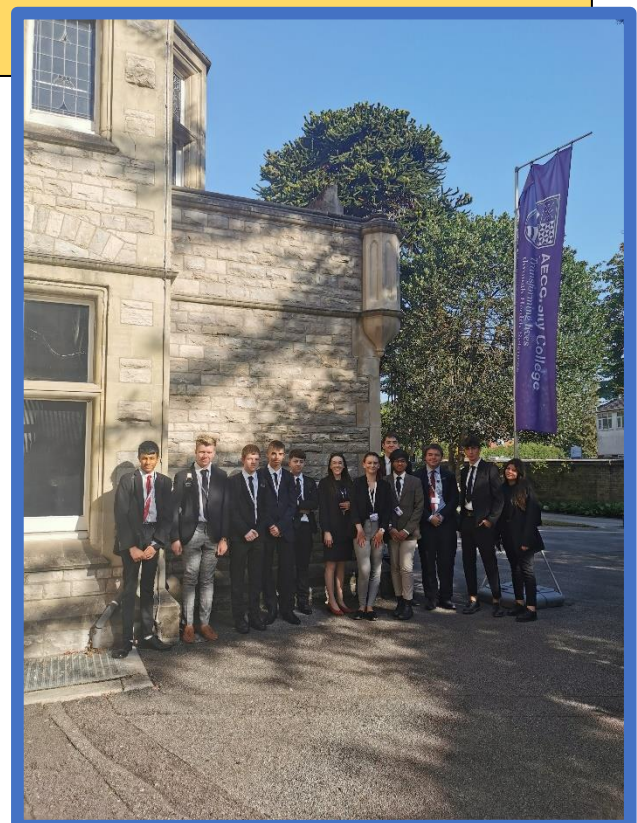
United Sixth Form

The best in everyone™

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We couldn't be #USFprouder of our Class of 2021 cohort who averaged a grade B across all A Level subjects with an amazing 35% securing A*-A grades in August 2021. 20% of students have secured places at Russell Group universities such as Bristol, Southampton and UCL. We wish all former students the best of luck with their further studies.

Turning to the new academic year, our Year 12s in the Class of 2023 have quickly settled into Sixth Form life and have adapted brilliantly to the pace and demands of A Level studies. A fabulous university taster day at AECC in the first week back at AECC enabled students to break the ice whilst discovering more about university life. Meanwhile the Class of 2022 have begun to submit their UCAS applications well in advance of the January deadline so they will be able to devote more of their time to revision and Mock Exams. They remain focussed on their studies and determined to do well in the Summer examinations. A great first half term all round - #USFproud!



Heads of Year



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

What a fantastic start from the Class of 2028! We have been so impressed with the students start to their Avonbourne journey.

Our extracurricular programme is thriving in Year 7 with many students attending at least one club each week. A full list is available on our websites if students are still keen to get involved. We were thrilled to play our first fixture last week with our Year 7 boys rugby teams playing against our brother school, Winton Academy. We came away with one draw and one loss, but the boys demonstrated excellent resilience and commitment and had a brilliant afternoon.

Each week in our Friday assembly I share with students the REACH leader board and have been so impressed with the amount of REACH points the students are collecting. A big well done to Shad, Joshitha, Zach and Kyrell who were top of the reach leaderboard this term and have won themselves vouchers to spend! Another big well done to the girls' classes who kept their REACH class scores above 4.5 for the Autumn term. It will be interesting to see the classes that meet this goal after half term.

This final week is a busy week for Year 7 as we begin the process of moving into our new streams after October half term and hold our first virtual parents' evenings on School Cloud. We know students may be feeling nervous or apprehensive about their new classes, but we assure them that there will be opportunities to get to know the other students and their new form tutors just like when they first joined. I hope you all have a well-deserved break this half term and cannot wait to see what Autumn 2 brings!

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

The class of 2027 have made a great start to year 8. It is always a pleasure to greet such well-presented and motivated students each morning at line-up. Thanks to you, the parents and carers, for supporting your child in ensuring they are prepared for each school day.

Pleasingly, this half term has seen the return of extra-curricular clubs. It has been lovely to see so many students staying after school to attend a range of activities from creative writing, orchestra, textiles, newspaper club and Russian club to name a few! Congratulations to the winners of the Football "euro" and netball tournaments that took place recently. Please can I encourage attendance on Wednesday and Thursday homework club. This is a calm quiet environment where students can work independently or with the support of staff.

A highlight of each week is the REACH reward section of assemblies. Well done to all the tutor groups that have maintained a high weekly average REACH score and a special mention to 8AG1 and 8AG4 who have continued to achieve the maximum mark of 5! Great job!

Individual achievement is also celebrated, and the weekly REACH reward leader board is becoming competitive! Appreciation to all in the top 50 and further congratulations to our students with the highest totals, namely Namu, Ceylin, Paige and Farai who all receive a £10 Amazon Voucher.

I wish all the class of 2027 a wonderful half term break.

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

The class of 2026 have had a fantastic start to this academic and as their head of year, I have been incredibly proud to see their successful transition from year 8 into year 9. All students started the year in their new stream, following their most recent ROA's at the end of year 8 and have kick started the year by maintaining high standards and meeting expectations. This time of year, is very busy with tours of prospective year 7 students and their parents, and the class of 2026 represented Avonbourne Academies as tour guides. The feedback our students received was fantastic and they did a brilliant job at showcasing our school. They have shown that they can be leaders and exceptional role models. Well done and thank you to all the students involved with this.

As the school gets back to normal following the forced restrictions from Covid, the year 9 students have fully embraced the extra-curricular programme. It was fantastic to read the very first newspaper article produced from the year group and watching our boys play Winton in their first rugby match.

As we approach the next set of ROA's and GCSE options choices, it is essential that the quality of learning is maintained, and this will be reinforced through excellent behaviour. I have been impressed with how fantastic year 9 students conduct themselves in a classroom environment. This is evident through the consistently high REACH awards given each lesson. Year 9 students are the highest achieving year group of weekly average REACH scores, and I look forward to seeing this continue throughout the year.

Congratulations on a brilliant start to the year, have a restful and well deserved half term break.



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

Where did that half term go!

What a busy time it has been for our Class of 2025. Students have made a strong start to the year and are already doing us proud with how they are embracing the new challenges and demands of Key Stage 4 study. The Year 10s have adapted well to new subjects, new teachers and a new tutor team, and are starting to develop the commitment, determination and drive that will serve them well as we begin to prepare for the first round of Year 10 assessments early in the new year.

Resilience must be a point of focus for the year group, and it is essential that year group attendance improves. Persistent and frequent absence from school is an issue. Currently vital learning is being lost and lesson content is being missed by too many Year 10 students, too often. With GCSE courses now fully underway, missing lessons puts such strain on students to catch up and inevitably leads to a disadvantage in exams. With 7 weeks of Year 10 now completed, we have only 32 school weeks left before Year 11. It is therefore imperative that we make every day and every single lesson count.

It has been absolutely fantastic to return as your Head of Year this half term Year 10, you all have such great promise and potential which we know you will fulfil over the coming months. Mrs Burley, Mrs Green and I wish you all a restful and relaxing half term break and we look forward to seeing you when we return.

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

I state regularly how proud I am of my year group and it goes without saying now that each time I say it, I feel I could not be prouder and yet – I am!

The way the students have, once again, adapted and overcome to the current learning experiences is incredible. Their engagement is not only in the highest percentile, but they are enthusiastic, motivated and eager.

The number of achievement certificates being sent home is only a small recognition of the hard work being put in, but they should be recognised for this effort. The top achievers so far are: Chloe G, Eleanor W, Hope N, Ellie H, Millie S, and Nicola R. Huge well done to you all!

As the reality of GCSEs continue to be recognised, Mrs Loughnan has been sharing valuable resources for careers and there are posts in the Class of 2024 TEAM regarding further education choices, Unifrog, apprenticeships and open evenings – the next free webinar being held on Monday 8th February at 3-5pm for the beginning of National Apprenticeship week. The registration link can also be found here.

Wishing you all a very well-earned rest for the half term.

Stay safe.

**We would like to wish all our Avonbourne community
a well deserved half term break.**

**We look forward to seeing you on Monday 1st
November at 8:30 am at line ups!**

www.avonbourneacademy.org.uk

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