

Building the Future



AVS Newsletter July 2023



# Message from the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of any term is always a busy time; none more so than the end of the academic year. As you know, we have had a variety of events taking place over the last couple of weeks and, looking back, the time seems to have passed in a blur of activity.

Our awards evening in early July was a real success with students, staff, parents and carers alike, inspired by our guest speaker, Steve Cunningham. Steve shared with us the many difficulties he had encountered since he started to go blind at a young age, but, despite the challenges that life threw at him, he showed huge resilience and tenacity. He worked hard to achieve his goals and refused to let people define him by his disability. A real inspiration, Steve is a fine example of what can be achieved if we push ourselves to be the best we can be.

Last week, I was delighted to be able to present around 200 students with awards in the final Gold Book assemblies of the year. As well as our traditional Gold Book awards, I presented students with: City and Guilds Certificates, AVS 50 Book Awards, sports colours, Pixl Edge Ambassadors Badges and a variety of other badges and awards to acknowledge expertise in different areas.

The end of the week saw students taking part in our annual sports day and activities day. I am pleased to report that both events were extremely successful. Sports day was highly competitive and, once again, students got behind their house teams with real enthusiasm. Several school records were broken and, as ever, the staff relay was a particular highlight. Activities day is always very popular and it was a delight to see such happy faces - both at the start and the end of the day! My thanks as always to Assistant Headteacher, Lee Hawkins, for organising the day and ensuring that once again it was a resounding success.

As the summer speeds by, it will seem that all too soon the shops will have 'Back to School' signs in the windows. Please do remind yourselves of our uniform and equipment expectations before you purchase new school items for the September start. Further information on these can of course be found on our school website and you have already received information regarding the change in the regulations for school footwear.



2022/23 has been a very successful year for the school. This was exemplified when our good work was recognised in our Ofsted inspection in March. As I sign off at the end of my tenure as Headteacher of The Avon Valley School, I want to thank you all for your support over the years. It has been an honour and a privilege to be the Headteacher of this wonderful school; I wish all of you the very best for the future.

***Alison Davies***

***Headteacher***







# Apollo House News



Last Thursday, it was great to finish the year on a high with Apollo House winning sports day again! It was wonderful to see so many students involved and supporting each other throughout the day.

Well done to the PE team for organising a great day, and thank you very much to all of the students who took part in one or more events, and got points for Apollo. A special well done too to Mrs Jackson, Miss Glassborow, Mr Whitehead and Mr Clancy for winning the staff relay!

Myself, Miss Hicks and all the Apollo tutors would like to thank you for your support this year, and we wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer with your families. We look forward to welcoming everybody back in September!



## **Miss Labreize** **Achievement Leader - Apollo House**





# Careers News

## Coventry University Arts & Design taster day

On 20th June, 13 Year 10 students successfully applied and were accepted to attend an Arts and Design day at Coventry University. Throughout the day the students were treated to two different activities, with the morning session focusing on how shapes can be combined to create structures. This session allowed students to consider how these structures can be sculpted, but also took on an architectural focus as there was a definite need to consider how the designs would remain functional. In the afternoon session, students were introduced to the basic skills needed to design visual elements of video games, creating characters for a science fiction concept. Students behaviour was impeccable and they were a credit to the school.



## Rugby Art Gallery - Talk and tour visit

On Monday 10th July a group of year 9 students visited Rugby Art Gallery. They heard about the different pathways to working in an art gallery, before having a tour of the current exhibition. Jessica Hartshorne, a local illustrator then talked to students about her career journey and showed the students how she creates her artwork, as well as allowing students to create their own characters.

**Mrs Owen**

**Careers Lead**







# Work Experience Week

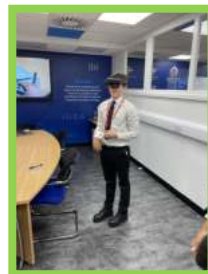
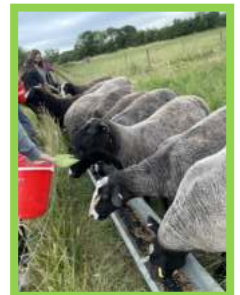
What an amazing week for our year 10 students. 170 students had in-person Work Experience (WEX) placements, 16 had virtual WEX placements and 25 students took part in workplace visits. Students worked at health clubs, garages, doctors surgeries, a swim school, as well as in secondary & primary schools. They worked with gardeners, engineers, the Army, the police and the fire services. They undertook experiences in hospitality, at theatres & dance companies, in Environmental organisations, distribution companies, and transport companies, to name just a few.

Employers said that the students were amazing, fantastic, employable, humorous and good leaders. Some students were paid, won employee prize of the week or have now got a Saturday / summer job with the company.

Thank you to all of the employers that worked with us. Without you, our students would not have been able to experience the world of work or had the variety of opportunities you have provided for them. Having returned to school, students have started writing their CV's and have been able to document the many employability skills they have practiced during their Work Experience Week..

As this academic year comes to a close, may I take this opportunity to thank the multiple employers, employees and post 16 destinations who have been a big part of the 2022-23 AVS careers programme. Without the time you have spent with our students, they would not have had such a full and varied careers programme this year.

**Mrs L Owen - Careers Lead**





# Science News

The Avon Valley School is proud to acknowledge the outstanding efforts and creativity displayed by the students of 7xS1, in their recent research project about endangered species.

Within the KS3 science curriculum, students learn about food webs, climate change and biodiversity. As a homework task, students were asked to research an endangered organism of their choice and produce a fact file showcasing their findings.

Students demonstrated exemplary commitment, investing both time and effort into exploring their chosen organisms. They meticulously gathered information and composed insightful summaries, all aimed at understanding the importance of conserving these endangered species.

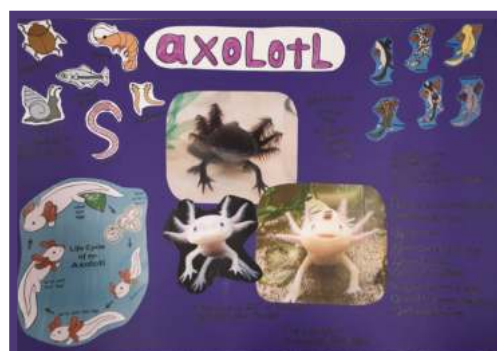
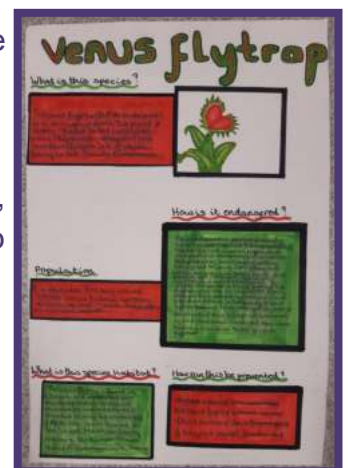
The research project not only enhanced their scientific knowledge, but also fostered a deeper understanding of the importance of protecting our planet's biodiversity. We commend these students for their outstanding homework submissions and consistently positive attitude towards their science studies this academic year.

Special well done to:

Rebecca Mazere, Amelia Flocea-Jisca, Makeila Demaj, Camilla Giles, Aria Millington, Tiana Rana, David Farnworth, Matylda Mazurczak, Milo Stanger, Scott Watts and Alex Swinford.

**Miss E Anderson-Howe**

**Teacher of Science**







# Rotary **YOUNG ARTIST** COMPETITION



On Saturday 15th July students entered the Rugby Rotary Young Artists Competition and their artwork was displayed at St Andrews church in town.

Well done to Jayden Martinazzi, Isobel Cartwright, Ruo Lin and Jamie Barnard for entering. The artwork looked brilliant displayed in the church.



A huge congratulations to Jayden who was announced the winner of GCSE level for his fantastic piece and awarded a prize and certificate by the Mayor of Rugby Cllr Maggie O'Rourke.

Ruo achieved second place from the public vote based on which piece they would most likely hang on their wall at home.

***Mrs H Barnard***

***Teacher of Art***





# PGL Trip to Caythorpe Court

Just over a week ago, 50 students in years 7 and 8 took part in an activity weekend at the Caythorpe Court PGL centre in Lincolnshire.

Students took part in 8 activities over 2 and a half days: canoeing, archery tag, Jacob's ladder, raft building, zip wire, trapeze and giant swing.

It was great to see students enjoying themselves, supporting each other, trying new things and at times overcoming their fears.

All students were a credit to the school and I would like to thank Miss Hicks, Mrs Owen, Mr Phelan and Mr Owen for giving up their weekend, for their involvement in the activities, for their support in ensuring everything went very smoothly and that all students enjoyed themselves.

**Miss Labreize**  
**Achievement Leader - Apollo House**



Caythorpe Court







# PGL Trip to Caythorpe Court







# PGL Trip to Caythorpe Court



Caythorpe Court







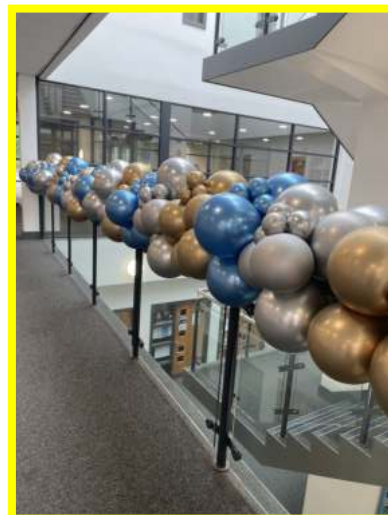
# PGL Trip to Caythorpe Court







# Year 11 Prom 2023



[www.sunflowerballoons.co.uk](http://www.sunflowerballoons.co.uk)







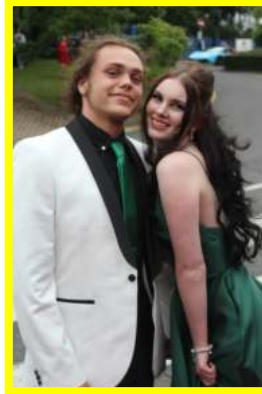
# Year 11 Prom 2023







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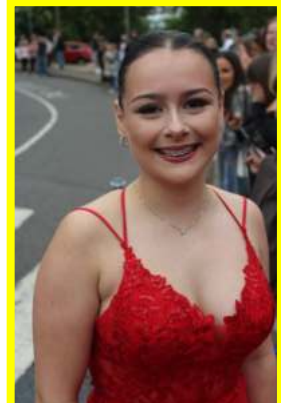
# Year 11 Prom 2023







# Year 11 Prom 2023







# Year 11 Prom 2023







# Year 11 Prom 2023





# Leave of Absence

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

*Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.*

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in

the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council

**It is important to note**, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority**







# Dates for your Diary

## September

4th Sept	Teacher training day
5th Sept	Years 7 & 11 In school only
5th Sept	Years 7 & 11 Photographs
6th Sept	All students In school
18th & 19th Sept	Year 7 Splash days
20th Sept	Dance/Drama students to see Metamorphosis
21st Sept	Open Evening
21st Sept	Year 7 Tutor Eve Goes Live for bookings
26th Sept	Years 8, 9 & 10 Photographs

**The Avon Valley School & Performing Arts College**

### School Uniform

Clip on house coloured tie to be worn at all times

Black V-neck AVS logo jumper (optional)

Loose fitting black school trousers.

Trousers that are tight fitting or made from denim type material are not permitted

White shirt to be worn with all buttons fastened

Shirts must be tucked in at all times

AVS logo on black skirt, no other skirts permitted

Jewellery is not permitted. With the exception of one pair of stud earrings to be worn one per ear

School shoes to be worn. Trainers, plimsolls, and branded footwear are not permitted.

Aspire Engage Achieve

**The Avon Valley School and Performing Arts College**

### Examples of Acceptable School Footwear

Aspire | Engage | Achieve



# Sports Day



## Sports Day Records

Event	Year 7 Boy	Year 7 Girl	Year 8 Boy	Year 8 Girl	Year 9 Boy	Year 9 Girl	Year 10 Boys	Year 10 Girls
Hurdles 11/8/8/8/12	Owen Kinnin 8.05 2018	Sophie Challenor 8.77 2015	Jordan Thompson 7.13 2023	Emily Gyles 8.09 2015	Lee Burton 7.03 2015	Tanisha Batchelor 8.25 2015	Logan Cooper 7.40 2023	Emily Gyles 8.52 2017
100m	Jamie Reynolds Wilkins 12.75 2013	Ellie Williams 14.48 2016	Zinedine Hussain 12.34 2022	Millie Challenger 13.10 2018	Krishnaun Thompson 11.37 2021	Millie Challenger 13.48 2019	Krishnaun Thompson 11.13 2022	Lauren Bailliey-Otoole 13.94 2019
200m	Jordan Thompson 27.15 2022	Millie Commons 30.83 2019	Kofi Ofofu 26.10 2021	Neil Colburt 28.28 2016	Henry Fei Asubonteng 25.11 2017	Millie Commons 30.12 2021	Krishnaun Thompson 24.14 2022	Emily Gyles 30.32 2017
300m	Jack Cooke 43.71 2019	Millie Challenger 49.66 2017	Roberto Ionescu 44.42 2016	Rose Ridler 51.11 2019		50.17 - SWI		Alexia Dorobantu 50.81 2017
400m					Josh Walden 59.33 2019		Javayed Linton 56.93 2019	
800m	Miles McIntyre 2.35 2016	Rachel Retallick 3.01 2014	Myles Martin/Logan Wilkinson 2.37	Issy Setchell 2.59 2016	Miles McIntyre 2.21 2018	Mia Lee 2.58 2018	Owen Kinnin 2.24 2021	Millie Berry 3.03 2017
1500m	Jamie Reynold Wilkins & Miles McIntyre 5.19	Julia Kaczmarek 6.02 2018	Myles Martin 5.09 2015	Rachel Retallick 6.26 2015	Myles Martin 4.47 2016	Kacie Elson 6.02 2014	Adrian Kaczmarek 4.57 2016	Julia Kaczmarek 6.08 2021
Long Jump	Dylan Taylor-Walton 4.23 2018	Suzi Inns 3.65 2017	Javayed Linton 4.75 2017	Ollie Dragon 3.92 2016	Aaron Evans 5.54m 2018	Wiki Nicieja 3.97 2016	Arron Evans Gray 5.54 2018	Georgie Awang 4.00 2022
High Jump	Krishnaun Thompson & Kallum Mackley 1.37	Maja Jurkiewicz 1.20 2022	Mate Karoyli 1.54m 2019	1.37 2012	Harrison Kelly 1.61 2023	JSM 1.32 2013	Leo Ojo 1.61 2022	Shona McGladrigan 1.32 2021
Shot	Alfie Gibson 9.50m 2022	Taylor Jade Fox 7.05m 2013	Durmish Katzi 11.20m 2022	Chelsea Adams 8.60m 2022	Xavier Antrobus- Williams 12.90m	Amber Harden 8.7m 2019	Xavier Antrobus- Williams 13.70m	Ceri Abbit 7.90m 2016
Discus	Byron Jones 25m 2017	Freyja Parkes 15m 2019	Byron Jones 26m 2018	Megan Gregory 17m 2013	Zachary Mbofana 27m 2023	Shay Anderson & Chloe Green 18m	Mark Ryan 30m 2017	Chloe Green/Evelyn Newman 17m
Javelin	Sidney Elvy-Owen 21m 2014	Jess Masters 22.50m 2012	Roy Stynes 27m 2010	Jess Masters 22.50m 2013	Ben Beasley 30.20m 2023	Jess Masters 22.50m 2014	Shaun Marsay 37.40 2016	Tia Andrews 20.5 2018
4 x 100 Relay	59.59 - ABE	65.00 JCO 2013	Fortune 55.92 2015	Phoenix 61.63 2018	Fortune 52.71 2017	Garrick 62.00 2016	Apollo 51.01 2017	Garrick 63.00 2017

Have a  
Safe and  
Happy  
Summer!

