



Alde Valley Academy

Aspire and Achieve. Lead with Kindness. Stronger Together.

NEWSLETTER - 8TH MAY 2026

CAREERS IN THE CURRICULUM

This week, staff at Alde Valley Academy dedicated part of their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) time to an exciting and important project: exploring and developing information about the many career opportunities linked to the subjects and topics taught across our curriculum.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that students not only gain excellent academic knowledge, but also understand how their learning can connect to future pathways, professions, and aspirations. Moving forward, there will be a greater emphasis across lessons, tutor time, and enrichment activities on highlighting and discussing potential career opportunities related to the curriculum. Our aim is to expose students to a wide variety of possible routes into employment, further study, apprenticeships, and careers they may never previously have considered.

This is an example of some information we will be sharing with students in our Maths lessons when we explore ratio and proportion

Careers in the curriculum: Ratio and Proportion

🏗️ Construction

Architects use scale factors (e.g., 1:50) to represent structures. Technicians calculate precise cement-to-sand ratios for batch integrity.

🍳 Culinary Arts

"Scaling a recipe" uses ratios to maintain flavour profiles when increasing portions from single digits to industrial factory distribution.

A CLOSER LOOK: PHARMACOLOGIST

Pharmacologist

Pharmacologists study the effects of drugs and chemicals on living things, and develop new products to help tackle disease.

Average salary (year)

£

£27,000

Starter

£55,000

Experienced

Typical hours (a week)

38 to 40

a week

You could work

evenings / weekends

flexibly

🎓 Educational Pathway

- Pharmacology degree.
- Biochemistry, Physiology, Microbiology, or Biomedical Science.

📋 Entry Requirements

- GCSEs: 4-5 grades at 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English, Maths, and Science.
- A-Levels: 3 subjects including mandatory Biology and Chemistry.
- Apprenticeships

ALUMNI

We know that one of the most powerful ways to inspire young people is through real-life examples — particularly from those who once walked the same corridors and sat in the same classrooms. With this in mind, we are keen to hear from former students of Alde Valley Academy about their own career journeys and progression since leaving school.

In future editions of this newsletter, we would love to feature alumni profiles showcasing the diverse and exciting careers our former students have pursued. Whether you have entered the world of business, healthcare, engineering, education, the creative industries, the armed forces, hospitality, trades, or any other field, your story could help inspire the next generation of Alde Valley students.

If you are in touch with any former students, please encourage them to get in contact with the school. We would love to receive a short profile outlining their career journey so far, along with a current photograph and details about their current role or studies.

Together, we can help broaden horizons, raise aspirations, and show our students the many exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Adder Awareness

As the weather becomes warmer and we spend more time outdoors, we'd like to remind families to be aware of adders, the UK's only venomous snake. Did you know that Suffolk and Norfolk are considered some of the strongest remaining areas for adder populations in the UK?

Adders are shy and protected by law, and bites are extremely rare, but it's still important to know how to stay safe. Adders are most active between April and September, particularly in heathland, coastal areas and long grass. To reduce the risk of encounters, please keep to paths where possible, wear suitable footwear, and remind children never to touch or approach snakes. Dogs should also be kept under close control in known adder habitats. If someone is bitten, medical attention should be sought immediately — do not attempt to catch or harm the snake. You can read more guidance and safety advice here:

[ARC Trust – Facts and advice on adder bites. \(arc-trust.org\)](https://arc-trust.org)



YEAR 7 PARENTS EVENING THURSDAY 21ST MAY – 4PM–7.30PM

We are delighted to invite you to our Year 7 Parents' Evening. As your child nears the end of their first year with us, this is a fantastic opportunity to discuss how they have settled into secondary school life, celebrate their achievements, and identify key areas for growth heading into Year 8.

To ensure the evening runs smoothly, we will be using our online booking system to manage appointments. Please find the essential details below:

Event Date: **Thursday, 21st May**

Event Time: **16:00 – 19:30**

Bookings Open: **Monday, 11th May at 16:00**

<https://aldevalley.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

PE NEWS

Year 10 Girls Shine at Rounders Tournament

The Year 10 girls represented the school brilliantly at this week's Rounders tournament, showing excellent determination, teamwork, and resilience throughout the competition.

The team got off to a fantastic start with a well-deserved victory against Stradbroke in their opening match. They then faced two very close games against Hartismere and Debenham, narrowly missing out on further wins. In their final fixture, the girls battled hard to secure a draw against Thomas Mills.

Overall, the team finished an impressive 3rd place in the tournament — a fantastic achievement! As the competition progressed, the players developed their tactical understanding of the game and gained valuable experience, all while enjoying a great afternoon of sport. Well done to everyone involved!



Athletics Fixture Rearranged

Unfortunately, this week's athletics fixture had to be cancelled due to poor weather conditions. We are currently arranging a new date and will share details as soon as possible.

Upcoming Fixtures

Monday 11th May

Year 7 & 8 Girls Softball Cricket at Thomas Mills High School

Tuesday 12th May

Year 8 Boys Softball Cricket at Hartismere School

A Reminder About Fixtures

Being selected to represent the school in sports fixtures is something students should feel proud of. We ask that if your child is unable to attend a fixture for any reason, they speak directly to a member of the PE staff before the day of the event, or that a parent/carers emails in response to the team sheet.

Not informing staff and failing to attend can be very disruptive for the team and disappointing for teammates who rely on full squads being available. Thank you for your continued support with school sport and fixtures.



**COMING
SOON!!!**



FRIDAY FIESTA – CARNIVAL GAMES

This week, Alde Valley Academy held another fantastic Friday Fiesta to celebrate and reward students who achieved 100% attendance throughout the week.

The event was a great success, with students enjoying a range of fun activities and games including mini golf, beanbag toss, and ring toss. There was plenty of laughter, friendly competition, and excitement as students tested their skills and aimed to win prizes.

A variety of rewards were up for grabs, including sweets, chocolate, and the ever-popular queue jump passes for the dining hall. The atmosphere was positive and energetic, with students proudly celebrating their excellent attendance and commitment to school.

At Alde Valley Academy, we know that good attendance plays a vital role in helping students achieve their best, both academically and personally. Friday Fiesta continues to be a wonderful way to recognise and reward the dedication and consistency shown by our students each week. We look forward to many more celebrations in the weeks ahead and would like to congratulate all students who achieved 100% attendance this week.





LEISTON BOOK FESTIVAL

Sat 19 Sept 2026

Creative writing competition

1ST PLACE - £75

2ND PLACE - £50

3RD PLACE - £25

Entries from
April 13th
to May 22nd

Years 7-10 (Each year judged separately)

Up to 300 words (1 entry per person)

Write about a landscape;
countryside, seaside, city etc.

The entry can be fiction or
non-fiction.

See Ms Smith in En4 if interested.

Sizewell *Creative*