



Headteacher: Mr David Snell

14 December 2018

Dear Parents/ Carers

You may or may not be aware that Alvechurch Library has been moved into a 90-day consultation. This covers the future of the library while addressing the savings the will make. After the consultation finishes, an announcement will be made in the Spring of 2019 and be implemented in the summer.

The suggestions range from reduced opening hours, unstaffed opening and a community run library. This would mean volunteers running a minimal service for a minimal number of hours.

Alvechurch Library currently has two members of paid staff working on every session and they are able to deliver a full and varied programme of events and services. These are part of their professional roles as library customer advisors. However, they then go above and beyond to provide more events for our community, including the Thursday lunchtime sessions, the student librarian programme and visits for the middle school children.

The events that they provide for school aged children include:

- Junior Readers Group
- Junior Craft Group
- Two story time sessions per week
- Thursday lunchtime A.M.S Open library
- A.M.S Student Librarian Training and events. We have a range of students who don't normally attend the library but (because of this opportunity) they do, including students who receive support from the SEN dept.
- Young People's Volunteering opportunities including the Summer Reading Challenge which saw 21 A.M.S students giving nearly 300 hours of their time to the library.



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- Young People's Reward Card Scheme. Two of our pupils are part of the team who developed this scheme and the library is now seeing it go countywide.
- Teen Book Club
- Summer Reading Challenge (CMFS came second out of over 300 schools that took part in Worcestershire)
- Teen Book Awards (with Schools library service)
- Awesome Awards (with Schools library service)
- National Bookstart week activities
- Many one off events including Poetry Workshops, Explore Learning Sessions etc.

Thursday lunchtime Open Library sessions last year

With 34 sessions in the academic year 2017/2018, Alvechurch Library welcomed **3740 students** from the middle school into the library and they borrowed over **700 books**. Six special events were held from Poetry performances to Christmas crafts. The student librarians also attended five training sessions either at Alvechurch Library, Woodrush High School or The Hive in Worcester, with our team of Year 6 librarians winning again at the annual End of Year Student Librarian Challenge. With over **20 student librarians volunteering** over the last 12 months, they provided **213 library sessions** altogether.

I'm sure that you can appreciate how important the library is to us as a school and the whole community of Alvechurch. The service the librarians provide is invaluable and we know that our pupils benefit immensely from their help.

It would be much appreciated if parents could show their support by taking part in the consultation. The forms are available online and as a hard copy at Alvechurch Library.

A document has been prepared which sets out background information to the consultation:

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/librariesconsultation>

Please find the library consultation online at:
<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries>

Any questions please email:
librariesconsultation@worcestershire.gov.uk

The closing date for responses to this consultation is 2 February 2019

There will be a public meeting with Lucy Hodgson the Cabinet Member responsible for Communities on Friday 21 December from 1-3pm at Alvechurch Library.

Many thanks

Miss S Sheridan
Head of English
Alvechurch CE Middle School