



# AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Tel: 01603 441034 Email: [office@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk)

Website: [www.avenuejuniorschool.org](http://www.avenuejuniorschool.org) Head: Mrs Debbie Dismore

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2 2016

Welcome back to quite a short, but very busy, half term. All the dates for the coming term were on the last newsletter which can be found on the website. With this newsletter there are many attachments (sorry!); please do take time to read & act on the letter regarding E- Safety as it applies to all of us as parents/carers. It is very important that we are all aware it is our responsibility together to make sure that all of the children are safe in their use of any devices and the sites they visit. There is a very good guide for junior school parents on the NSPCC website called Share Aware – we have also put this on our website under parents or follow [this link](#).

A reminder also to parents that no mobile phones or other devices are allowed in school - without exception.

World Book Day is coming up next Thursday – details on the flyer. It would be lovely if you could join us! I have just a couple of other key items to bring to your attention.

### Staffing Updates

The very observant amongst you may have noticed that Mrs Pereira, one of our Year 6 teachers, is expecting a baby. She will be working to May half term and then taking maternity leave – well timed as she will be able to see the children through their SATs!

Sadly we will be saying goodbye at Easter to one of our longest serving teachers in the school. Mrs Debbie Ridgeon, who is in her 13<sup>th</sup> year at the school and is currently an Assistant Head, will be moving onto a Deputy Headship in April. Although we are pleased that a good opportunity has arisen for her, we are very sad to see Debbie leave us. Debbie has brought such fun, enthusiasm and creativity to Avenues and she will be sorely missed. There is a collection in the office for those parents/carers who wish to contribute to her leaving gift. We will, of course, in true Mrs Ridgeon style, be giving her a fabulous Avenues' send off!

Children in 6P and 5CR will receive a separate letter next week to give more information about the arrangements for the rest of the year.

### Spelling

We are currently reviewing our Homework Spelling Policy. Whilst these discussions are underway your children will be only be bringing home words to practice that they have self-selected from their year group word list as words they find it difficult to spell, as they do not follow any specific pattern or rule. (This does not apply to Year 6 children who will be continuing with the current arrangements) We are keen that the spellings the school sets have a positive effect on improving the accuracy of children's written work, not just be learned for a test, and that it is a worthwhile activity for parents/carers to do with their children. At no point do we wish spelling homework to become an area of frustration or upset.

Thank you for your understanding and please be assured that we will continue to teach spelling rules in school as per usual and that we hope to have our new homework policy in place before the Easter break.

### Collection for Calais – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March

We are once again collecting to help with conditions in the refugee camps. Please see the leaflet for items needed. Again thank you for your generosity with these collections – it always reminds me of what a fabulous community we live and work in. Please do not bring items that are not on the list as they cannot be taken.

### Toys

The School's Council are organising a second hand toy sale to raise funds for the Syrian refugees. If you have any good quality toys or book to donate can you either bring them to school on the Saturday – there will be a separate box for these - or send them into school the week beginning March 7<sup>th</sup> for the sale on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. We will send a reminder out nearer the time.

### Furniture

We have a number of items for sale in school. We would love them to go to good homes. Please have a look at the flyer emailed home earlier this week.

As always, if you need to contact me either catch me on the playground on a morning or drop me an email.

Best wishes, Debbie Dismore