



# AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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

NOVEMBER 2015

Welcome back to another full and exciting half term. I love the build up to Christmas but it is always so busy – please keep an eye on the website and your emails now we are up and running with emails again. Could I ask that if you do receive emails from us and don't wish to, please do not mark them as Spam or Junk Mail – just let us know you no longer want information in this way. Apparently this contributed to the problems with certain email addresses (not just from this school!). Although it is still mild presently, the weather is unpredictable so please do ensure that your child has a coat in school every day in case it rains. Can I also remind all parents of the school uniform policy. Only black shoes/boots may be worn in school. Trainers are not allowed apart from PE. I know children's feet grow quickly – if you need any support with the cost of school shoes or indeed PE kit, please do contact me.

## Talking about Paris

I am sure you will have all been affected by the news over the weekend. You may be wondering how/if to discuss the attacks with your child. Some of you may have done this already. As a school we observed the 2 minutes silence on Monday and class teachers explained to their classes in general terms why this was happening and that they were able to talk individually to teachers if they wanted too. It is always difficult to strike the right balance between acknowledging what has happened and giving too much information as to make children overly anxious. There was an interesting article in the Guardian that may be of help called How to talk to your child about the Paris Attacks. The website is below. If it seems your child is unduly worried or very anxious please do let us know.

<http://gu.com/p/4e96h?CMP>

## Vision

Along with this newsletter you will find a copy of the Vision, Values and Aims for Avenue Junior School. This was formulated by the children, staff and Governors in October. We have already started talking and unpicking our values in our assemblies and also in classes with the children. We will work hard to integrate these values into all our planning, teaching and learning. Our children told us what they loved about Avenues and what they wanted more of and we have been taking this into account when planning the rest of the year (the realistic ones anyway!).

## School Development Plan

A summarised version of this year's School Development and Improvement Plan is now available on the website.

## Home/School Agreement

Next week we will be sending home a new Home/School Agreement which has been shortened and is in line with our new Ready to Learn Behaviour Policy and school rules.

I hope you found the parent/carer consultations helpful last week. If you missed your appointment please do get in touch to rearrange another one.

## In school

Y6 have just returned from a very successful residential visit to Lincolnshire and Y4 will be off to the Horstead Residential Centre in next week – exciting times! Y5 are delving deep into Rainforests this term and Y3 are exploring the Broads. All termly overviews are now on the website for more information on what your child is learning. I am out on the playground every morning if you have any queries at all. Enjoy the half term.

Best wishes Debbie Dismore

## Friendship Week (incorporating Anti -Bullying Week) 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015

During the week we will be completing a range of activities and workshops to ensure children understand what good friendship means, including work on what bullying is, what forms it can take and how to get help. We will be having a special focus on **talking about bullying** in all forms and there will be plenty of opportunity for discussion and drama as well as expressing ideas through art and writing. The school council will also be working on a new leaflet about preventing bullying for children written by children.

Visit the website <http://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week> for more details.

## Anti-Bullying Policy Group

Are you interested in helping to draft a new version of the Anti-Bullying Policy? If so, please contact me at [head@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk). We will be putting a working party of staff, governors, parents/carers and children together to review the current policy and make changes so it is clear and concise. Our first meeting will be in December.

### **AUTHOR VISIT – A.F. HARROLD**

Last Wednesday we were lucky enough to have a visit by the author A F Harrold. The children left feeling greatly inspired to write their own poetry and enthused by his creativity and his amazing word choices! I hope all the children who bought books thoroughly enjoy them. Thank you to Mrs Riddell who arranged the visit.



### **British Council International School Award**

Mr Lowe attended a special ceremony in London on Monday to receive our award for 'outstanding development of the international dimension in the curriculum'.

We will continue to work closely with our partner schools across the world as well continuing to develop our whole curriculum to ensure our good work continues and that children understand their place and responsibilities in the world.



### **THINK PINK DAY**

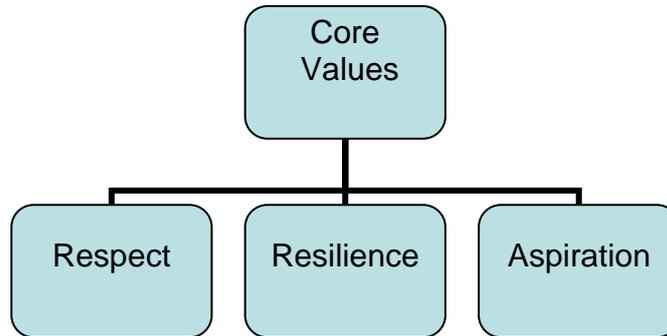
'Think Pink' Day was extremely successful and Mrs Barwick would like to thank everyone for their generosity – she raised over £700 for Breast Cancer Research. She is in full flow with her training for the London Marathon – we will keep you up to date! Mr Chambers and Mrs Ridgeon had a difficult time choosing (& sampling!) for the cake competition. Congratulations Aimee, Jo and Max for the wonderful winning cakes!



Thank you for helping with all the wonderful costumes and your generous contributions. We will let you know the final amount when it is all counted! Mr Chambers, as always was a vision(?) as Thor but was upstaged by Miss Turner's Superwoman outfit!

# Avenue Junior School

*'Creating Excellence and Enjoyment for Everyone'*



We aim to achieve our vision by:

- providing an exciting and balanced curriculum
- providing equality of opportunity and equal access
- providing a variety of approaches to learning
- providing a happy, safe and secure environment
- ensuring children are supported to develop good emotional and physical health
- encouraging the necessary learning and social skills for taking a positive role in life
- valuing each member of the school community and their contributions
- developing self-respect, self-confidence and taking responsibility for their actions
- developing compassion and respect for gender, cultural, religious and social backgrounds
- taking positive action against discrimination and stereotyping on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, ability or social class.

Through working in partnership with parents, children, governors and staff our learning community will:

- be confident and enthusiastic; working independently or as part of a team in all aspects of school life
- have a good set of social and moral values; they are compassionate and respectful. They value the world, their school and each other.
- have a sense of pride in themselves and their achievements and a strong belief in their own identity
- have happy memories of enjoyable, challenging and exciting learning and high aspirations for the future
- be ready for the next step in their learning journey.