



# AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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

## January Newsletter 2018

This is the first newsletter of 2018 and so although we are at the end of January I would like to wish you all a very happy New Year! The children have made a wonderful start to the term with lots to look forward to as we continue on through the year

### Date reminders

26<sup>th</sup> January – School Discos  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February – A King's Ransom  
Opera performance at Open.  
W/C 12<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term Holiday  
5/6/7<sup>th</sup> of March – Year 6 Residential  
12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March – Parent/Teacher  
Consultations

### A King's Ransom

4BC and a number of Year 5 children are reaching the end of an exciting project where they have worked with professional directors and musicians on an Opera written for them and will be performing this with a number of other schools at Open on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February. It has been incredibly hard work for the children and the staff but from the sound of the rehearsals it's going to be amazing! Should any of you wish to watch the performances, tickets are available via <https://opennorwich.org.uk/whats-on/gigs-events/a-kings-ransom/>

We are very proud of the children's efforts and wish them the best of luck for the performances.

### Mrs. Dismore

Mrs. Dismore sends her thanks to all of you who sent messages and she, along with the staff at Stoke Mandeville, were hugely grateful for the charity collection which topped the £1000 mark! I think this is the most we've ever collected and shows the level of support the school community has given to Mrs. Dismore and her family.

### Entrance and Exit Gates

Apologies to everyone for the inconvenience caused by closing the gates on Swansea Road on Friday afternoon. This was because we identified some loose roof tiles caused by the strong winds on Thursday that could potential injure people. Please note that the gate on Swansea Road will remain closed until the tiles are fixed. We will let you know when the repairs have been completed and the gate can reopen. In the meantime, please ensure that your children are aware of where you will be collecting them from if you have to make different arrangements.

### Choir of Sanctuary, New for 2018!

The Avenues community choir has been going for a year now and are re-launching as the Choir of Sanctuary (the UK's first!). We are extending a warm welcome to anyone connected with Norwich's Schools of Sanctuary initiative to join our ranks.

So if you enjoy singing on your own or with others, if you're a total beginner or a keen singer and also a parent/carer, member of staff, governor or pupil at one of the network schools, a refugee or asylum seeker, or anyone who works to support Norwich's newly arrived families, we'd love to hear from you.

**We will start our singing again on Monday 5th February at 6pm.**

Our friendly, informal choir has been meeting for just over year. Don't worry about your singing not being good enough – enthusiasm is more important than experience, and there are no auditions (or solos!). Led by a professional music teacher, our sessions work to build the performance of a diverse range of songs. In the last few months we've sung *Let It Be*, *Put A Little Love In Your Heart*, Verdi's *Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves* and a song in Zulu (sometimes you have to earn the free biscuits).

**Sessions run 6–7pm every Monday in term time and are free of charge; for more details, please email**

**[office@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk)**

Please spread the word and come and join us!

## Governor News

### A message from Nania Poulson (Chair of Governors)

Welcome to the spring term from the governors, and a first 'hello' from me in the role of Chair of Governors. I am delighted to be taking over from Wendy Clearly who has been a fantastic Chair and has successfully led the Governors for more than 7 years and been on the governing body for a lot longer! Wendy remains on the governing body until the end of the year when we will say a proper goodbye and thank you to her. We are pleased to have a new staff governor joining us, Ms Zivtins and two new parent governors Ally Ireson and Sam Rowbury, no doubt they will all make a great contribution.

We continue to support Mr Hooper in his role of Acting Head while Mrs Dismore remains on leave, caring for her son. We are in regular touch with her and she misses school very much.

We have a new email for the governors so if you want to make contact with me then you are welcome to email on [chairofgovs@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:chairofgovs@avenuejunior.norfolk.sch.uk).

Have a good term!

### Consultation Evenings

12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 3.30pm – 7.30pm

A letter will be going home next week for you to indicate a time slot for meeting your child's class teacher.

Please do take this opportunity to meet your child's teacher to discuss progress and next steps with them.

### Parking

A number of parents have been dropping off and picking up on the yellow zigzag lines outside of the front of the school. Please ensure that this space is kept clear as it causes problems for pedestrians and also for staff who cannot always drive into or out of a parking space.

### Fiddle Toys

A reminder that no fiddle toys (Fidget Spinners etc.) are allowed to be brought into school unless they are part of a plan that has been put in place by Mrs. Jones as SENco.

### Classroom Assistant

A vacancy has arisen for a pupil specific classroom assistant. If you wish to know more about this role, please contact Mike Hooper or Dawn Jones.

### Attendance

Our current school attendance is 97.21%.

## CNS Admission Consultation

CNS, one of the high schools our pupils tend to go to, have proposed changes to their admissions policy. They have written a letter detailing these to me and I would like to share them with you. They are proposing that their pupil numbers for Year 7 are set at 270 from 2019 and that up to 10% of this number will be 'For students with a potential for or aptitude in music.' The full Admissions Policy and details of the consultation are on their website, <http://www.cns-school.org/AboutUs/Admissions-Consultation-2019/>.

I would encourage you to contribute to the consultation to help CNS take account of the views of their potential future pupils' families. The consultation closes on 31<sup>st</sup> January.

You can comment directly via email, [admissions@cns-school.org](mailto:admissions@cns-school.org).