



AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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March Newsletter 2018

We seem to be seeing the first signs of spring which seemed like a distant hope when the snow fell recently! It was with regret that we had to close the school on safety grounds; thank you for your understanding as I know that this will have inconvenienced you.

Date reminders

12th and 15th March – Parent Consultation
Week beginning 12th March – Music Festival
Friday 16th March – Year 3 Trip to the Castle
22nd and 23rd March – Year 4 trips to Sutton Hoo
28th March – last day of term and our rescheduled World Book Day
20th April – PTA film night
20th April – Norfolk Welcomes Day of Action
27th April – Author Visit: Jessica Townsend
7th May – Bank Holiday Monday
14th May – SATs week

Norfolk Welcomes Day of Action

'Norfolk Welcomes' is a day of action on displacement that engages schoolchildren creatively and critically with the global refugee crisis and local refugee histories (past and present) in order to help them make sense of the world and build more welcoming communities.'

Avenue Junior is proud to be a School of Sanctuary and will be taking part in a range of activities on Friday 20th April to engage with the issues around displacement.

Online Safety

We are concerned about some of the language being used by some children in school. When I have addressed this with them, one common factor is that they have said that they have heard this online when playing group games. The children don't seem to know the meaning of the words but they have then repeated them. Unfortunately, some pupils are then being exposed to bad language at school which can be very upsetting.

Please talk to your child about their online gaming – do you know who they are playing with? If they are wearing headsets, do you know what's being said?

Two awards to be proud of...

We are very proud of the broad and balanced curriculum that we strive to offer at Avenues. Our children have huge opportunities in the arts and they enjoy many chances to be creative throughout the school. This has been recognised with the awarding of the **Gold Artsmark** award that celebrates the range of artistic opportunities the children are able to access.

At Avenues, we have always tried to enable our children to see things from other peoples' points of view. They are taught that everybody is 'different but equal'. There has been a great deal of work done to establish this as a key element of our children's experience at school. As a result of this, the school has achieved the **Equalities Award** which demonstrates our commitment to building a tolerant society.

A Kings Ransom Opera

After months of hard work, 4BC and a number of Year 5 children performed A King's Ransom, an opera that was very ambitious, uniting four schools as performers. This involved a huge amount of work from the children and staff and it wasn't always easy as the schedule was very demanding. However, it was such a pleasure to watch the performances at Open in Norwich. I was so very proud of all of the children and know that they will have created memories that will last a lifetime. A huge thank you to everyone involved.

Waterstones Trips

The children have had a wonderful time visiting Waterstones to spend their World Book Day vouchers.

We look forward to welcoming another author, Jessica Townsend, to our school on Friday 27th April to further inspire a love of reading for our children.

Cross Country

Well done to the Cross Country squad this year. There was a huge amount of success with the boys winning the shield for the third year running! Out of over 100 boys, Joe Machin came 2nd and Noah Moore came 3rd.

The girls also did well, coming 7th overall – our highest ever placing!

Rescheduled World Book Day

I'm sure that the children were very disappointed to miss out on the opportunity to wear their costumes for World Book Day when the school was closed due to snow.

Don't worry, Our World Book Day will now be on Wednesday 28th March. This is the last day of this term so it will be a nice way to break up for Easter.

Attendance

Our current school attendance is 97.02%.

Please remember that children are expected to attend every day and that any request for absence should be made with Mr. Hooper.

Uniform

We have noticed a number of children coming to school without the proper school uniform. Children can wear:

- Royal Blue Sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Grey or black school trousers/skirts
- White or royal blue polo shirt
- Black school shoes

...and as the weather warms up:

Black or grey shorts or blue school dresses (checked or striped only). Sensible sandals may be worn but parents need to bear in mind potential for injuries with open-toed shoes.