



# NOVEMBER Newsletter 2018



The weather is a lot cooler as Autumn takes hold so please do ensure that your child has a warm waterproof (named!) coat in school and suitable clothing and footwear (I do know some children wear shorts all year – brrr!). Year 4 have just returned from their residential with lots to be proud of. Their behaviour and good humour (despite the weather) made it a very successful visit. I would like to personally thank all the staff who attend the residential visits and without any extra pay, giving up their own free time to ensure that we can continue to run these opportunities for children. Having run visits myself in the past, I know that they are so worthwhile but also very tiring with an enormous amount of responsibility.

This term is one of the most enjoyable, but busiest terms. Keep an eye on your emails and the website for updates.

We will be sending more information about arrangements for Christmas in the next issue. For charities this term we will be supporting Children in Need and at the end of term we will be collecting for the Food Bank and Leeway as part of the Big Christmas Give – more details soon.

Please make sure you have booked your parents evening appointment with your child's teacher. We look forward to seeing you in school soon.

## Staff Updates

We will say goodbye to Mrs Goslitski this week as she moves on to pastures new and we wish her every success, we will miss her. At the end of this term, Jennie Woodhead our school finance officer (& more!) is leaving after 12 years at the school to spend more time with her family and also pursue new opportunities. Jennie & I have worked together a long time and she has been a fabulous colleague and friend as well as such an important part of the Avenues team. She will be sorely missed.

We also welcome back Alice Knights into school and a very warm welcome to our new Office Manager, Judith Wilson who joins us from Leicester and Lesley Websdale will be joining us in December to take over from Jennie Woodhead. We advertise all our school vacancies on our website and are currently recruiting Midday Supervisors and a Pastoral Support Assistant (to be advertised this week). If you wish to discuss either of these positions do speak to myself or Mr Hooper.

## Autumn Term 2 Dates November

12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Parent & Teacher consultations

16<sup>th</sup> Children in Need Day

20<sup>th</sup> Open day for Y2 parents

27<sup>th</sup> Film Night Y3 & 4 5.30 - 7

## December

4<sup>th</sup> Christmas Wreath Making evening

Christmas concerts

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> (Y3 & 4) & Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> (Y5 & 6) 7pm

14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day &

Christmas Lunch (provisional)

15<sup>th</sup> Big Christmas Give

17<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fayre after school

18<sup>th</sup> School Closes for Christmas

School reopens Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.

## PTA IMPORTANT INFORMATION – YOUR PTA IS AT RISK!

Two years ago I sent a letter home regarding the lack of support for the PTA. There was a fantastic response and we were all very pleased to see it saved. All parents are automatically members when they join the school. However we are once again in a situation, like 2 years ago, and 2 years before that where there are really not enough regular helpers or committee members for the PTA to be sustainable. The PTA raises very important funds for the school, and in these very challenging financial times for schools it is crucial for us. In addition to this they provide great opportunities and fun nights for you and your children (see dates!). At the last meeting only 4 people attended. If you cannot commit to being a committee member, a willing helper would be a fabulous role for you to play. There cannot be just a few parents/carers who are doing all the work for 480 families – it's just too much to expect. Contact Emily, the PTA chair on [chairptaavenues@gmail.com](mailto:chairptaavenues@gmail.com) for further details of how you can help or just come along to the next meeting on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November - Warwick Social 7.30pm.

## **Pets as Therapy (PAT)**

We are very lucky to have Hannah Colbourn coming into school on Thursday afternoons with her lovely PAT dogs, Todd (a very chilled-out greyhound) and Peggy (a dead ringer for Hairy McLairy!) We currently have four children taking part in the 'Read to dogs' scheme – two from year 3 and 2 from year 6. The children have really loved the experience.

"They are beautiful pets to have and they are very well trained. It is nice to have them come in to our school. Peggy is very cute and fluffy and cuddly. I get nervous when I read and they make me feel less worried about reading". Sophie-Leigh, Year 3

"It is really good fun. It helps you feel calmer" Dylan, Year 6

## **SPORTS NEWS**

Finally an update on our children's sports news (written by the children). Congratulations on some brilliant results!

### **Cross Country Team**

The cross country team took part in the county trials this week.

"Last Wednesday (7/11/18) we had a cross country race round Earlham Park. The race was 1600 metres long. I (Astrid) came 15<sup>th</sup> and Gregor came 42<sup>nd</sup>. It was very enjoyable.

Last Friday we did another race which took place in Falcon Junior School which was also 1600 metres. I (Astrid) came 36<sup>th</sup> out of 120 and Gregor came 66<sup>th</sup> out of 120"

Gregor Rogers and Astrid Smither

### **Girls Football Team**

"Two weeks ago on Tuesday 30 October Mr Leek gathered some girls to play a tournament at the Nest to try and win the Dray cup. Sadly we didn't win but we did come 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 8 other schools. We also did a friendly match against Newton Flotman and the Year 5's won 8-1 and the Year 6's won 3-2."

Florence Manley and Cleo Marcantonio

### **Boys Football Team**

"Avenue Junior School Year 6 team won our first match 3-2 against Bignold (Thomas scored 2 goals and V scored 1 goal). Our second game we won 2-0 with Rufus and Sam scoring 1 goal each. This match was against St Francis of Assisi. Last game we drew 1-1 against Angel Road. Alfie took a shot and it bounced off someone's head and it went in the goal."

Rufus Johnson

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