



## AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

AVENUE ROAD, NORWICH, NORFOLK, NR2 3HP

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# November Newsletter 2019

After a successful first half term, the children are well settled and working hard. There are lots of opportunities and events coming up this half term and so I hope that over the coming weeks you will be able to join us and we will see you at school.

### Diary Dates

- 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November: Year 3, 5 and 6 Consultation Evenings
- 11<sup>th</sup> November: School photos
- 15<sup>th</sup> November: Children in Need
- 21<sup>st</sup> November: Camouflage Learning Parent Sessions
- 26<sup>th</sup> November: Year 4 Consultation Evening
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December 7pm: PTA Christmas wreath making event
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December: Year 4 Consultation Evening
- 5<sup>th</sup> December 5:30pm: PTA Year 3 and 4 Film Night
- 9<sup>th</sup> December 7pm: Year 3 and 4 Carol Concert at St Thomas' Church
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 7pm: Year 5 and 6 Carol Concert at St Thomas' Church
- 13<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Lunch and Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day
- 16<sup>th</sup> December: PTA Christmas Fayre

### Non uniform/Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December we will be supporting the NSPCC Christmas Jumper Day. In school on that day, children will be able to wear non-school uniform. If they wish, they can wear a Christmas jumper. This does not have to be one that they have bought! Children are welcome to decorate their usual school jumpers for the day. There is a suggested donation of £1 to support this cause.

The first half term of the year has been full of exciting learning. We were treated to an amazing visit from Cressida Cowell, author of the How to Train Your Dragon books, who truly inspired the children in Years 4 and 5 with both their reading and writing.

It's been wonderful to see how independent our Year 3 children have been around school. Thank you to parents for helping them to settle in the first half term in the mornings!

Year 6 are creating some great work – their Macbeth poems were especially wonderful.

Our school clubs are well up and running and there are a variety of activities on offer with lots of children taking part; thank you to the staff who give up their time to support these.



Cressida Cowell meets some of our pupils

### Office Hours

Please note that the School Office is open from 8am until 4pm every day.

### **Changes to collection arrangements at the end of the day**

School completely understands that plans for pick up time sometimes need to change and that this is occasionally at short notice. However, please ensure that all changes to who will be collecting children are made via the School Office and please do give us as much notice as possible.

### **Friendship Week**

Next week we will be focussing on creating powerful messages to address bullying that help the children to understand that small changes can have a big impact. Part of this week celebrates difference and so on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November, children are invited to wear odd socks!

### **Year 3 & Year 4 Lunchtime**

This half term in Year 3 and Year 4 we are trialling a new initiative to celebrate happy and safe playtime behaviour. In Year 3 and Year 4 children can be rewarded with golden stickers for demonstrating behaviour that exemplifies The Golden Rule – treat others as you'd like to be treated. Please talk to your child about what The Golden Rule means to them and what it would look like in the playground.

### **Camouflaged Learning Parental Engagement**

Our recent Camouflaged Learning event in school was a great success and we have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the sessions.

Each session is an opportunity to spend time with your child in school, taking part in a range of fun activities. We have another opportunity for you to attend on the 21<sup>st</sup> November and hope to get more dates to allow as many of you to take part as possible.

More details will be sent about how you can become involved.

### **Korfball Update**

The Korfball teams have had an excellent start to the season. The Year 6 team won the opening season tournament and the Year 5 team were runners up in their respective tournament. We look forward to seeing how the Year 4 team do this weekend!

### **Schools of Sanctuary**

Thanks to all of those who made butterfly art for The Friend Ship to be sent to people being held indefinitely in immigration detention centres. They looked wonderful! Later this month we will be using the money raised last year during Norfolk Welcomes to purchase new mattresses for 6 Syrian families who will be resettling in Norwich over the Christmas periods.

Mr Rose-Brown and some pupils are presenting on our work as a School of Sanctuary to 200 teachers from across Norfolk at a local education conference on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

In addition, Mr Rose-Brown is still looking for brief testimonials from parents and carers sharing their views on our Schools of Sanctuary work to add to our application to renew our award which he will be submitting later this year. If you'd like to contribute, please write a few sentences and send them to the office FAO Mr Rose-Brown.

### **Free School Meals & Pupil Premium**

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, other state benefits or Tax Credits your child may be eligible for Free School Meals and the school may be entitled to additional Pupil Premium funding. If you think your family may be eligible please see the School Office for an application form. All families newly identified as being eligible for Pupil Premium will receive a £30 book voucher.

### **Football Update**

We have three squads; Year 5, Year 6 and Year 5/6 Girls. The Girls and the Year 5 teams haven't conceded a single goal either!

All three teams have been undefeated all season! Big thanks to the staff and parent helpers for organising these clubs.

### **Cross Country Update**

The team have been showing amazing team spirit, and at the recent competition we got 13 children through to the County Finals! Our girls' team are currently in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and our boys' team are in 6<sup>th</sup> place out of 25 schools!