



AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL

AVENUE ROAD, NORWICH, NORFOLK, NR2 3HP

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January Newsletter 2020

This is the first newsletter of 2020 and the children have made a wonderful start to the term with lots to look forward to as we continue on through the year.

Diary Dates

5th February: Camouflaged Learning sessions for children

6th February: PTA Discos
Year 3&4 - 3:30pm-4:45pm
Year 5&6 – 5pm-6:30pm

13th February: Camouflaged Learning session

25th February at 6:30pm: Year 6 SATs Information Session

16th and 19th March: Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings

1st April: Last day of term

Charities

We would like to say thank you to everyone who donated to the charities we supported over the Christmas period. With your generosity, we raised £1080.21 for the Malawi Dedza Schools project which will go a long way in supporting the development of education at the Bolera School and the local community there.

You donated a great number of bags of sugar which were gratefully received, ready to support the homeless over the winter period.

You also supported the Foodbank, collecting lots of crates of food to help those in need.

Thank you

Permit Parking

As you may be aware, the vast majority of streets around the school are all now Permit Parking Zones. Please be aware that this has placed additional pressures on school staff and visitors to the school for whom it is necessary to drive. We would respectfully ask that you support us by only using a car to travel to school if absolutely necessary, to try to reduce pressure on parking spaces and congestion in the local area. Of course, this will, in turn, support our aim to help the environment too.

No Dogs Policy

Although we are rather fond of dogs, we operate a policy of not allowing dogs onto the school site at all unless they are an assistance dog. We have noticed a number of dogs being brought onto the playground and so felt this reminder should be sent. Thank you for your cooperation.

Attendance

The whole school attendance target is 97%. So far this year, our attendance is 96.43%. Please be aware that you should not take your child out of school for term time holidays. Absence requests can only be agreed in exceptional circumstances and must be requested in writing using the correct form, available from the main office.

Changes to collection arrangements at the end of the day

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

Entrance Gates

We would like to thank you for your continued patience whilst the entrance on Swansea Road has remained closed. This is whilst essential maintenance is being carried out. This work has now started and we will update you once it is complete and we can open both entrances again.

Staffing Update

We would like to welcome Ms. Rosie Amies, the new SENCO to Avenues. She comes with a wealth of experience and is available for advice and support should you have any concerns about your child with SEN. There is an opportunity to meet Ms. Amies on Friday 7th February at 9.30 am.

We have also welcomed back Mrs. Powley from maternity who is supporting in Years 3 and 5.

Safeguarding

At Avenues, we take our responsibilities about safeguarding children very seriously. Myself (Mr. Hooper) and Mr. Chambers are the two safeguarding leads in school. If you ever have any worries or concerns about children that attend Avenues, please ask to speak directly with one of us. We will treat your concerns seriously and with discretion.

VE Day

We are starting to plan how we will commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day during the week beginning 4th May. If there are any parents or family members with particular stories, reflections or ideas about topics then I would love to hear them. Please let your child's class teacher know if you would like to be involved in any way.

Is my child well enough to go to school?

It can sometimes feel very tricky when deciding whether your child is fit and well enough to go to school. As a general rule, you should always send them in and we will always monitor them at school and send them home if necessary unless they are clearly very unwell.

However, the NHS website has lots of information to help you with this decision, including how long to keep your child off for. You can find lots of information about things like cold sores, conjunctivitis, chicken pox and impetigo at the following address:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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 office for an application form. All families newly identified as being eligible for Pupil Premium will receive a £30 book voucher.

Maths Website

We have updated our Maths section of the school's website although we are still creating some calculation videos. It's worth paying it a visit as there's lots of information on there and some great ways to support your children in learning their times tables!

Please visit:

<http://www.avenuejuniorschool.org/curriculum/maths/>