

Common Road Stanmore Middlesex HA7 3JB 020 8249 6831 Option 1

AHS.primary@avanti.org.uk www.avanti.org.uk/avantihouse

Tuesday 14th April 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you are all looking after yourselves and your loved ones are safe and well.

During this challenging time, we hope to minimise the disruption of our children's education as much as possible. We have been setting challenging learning via Google Classroom, we have had many positive feedbacks from parents, including children. Thank you for the incredible support we have received and the I have received, personally are incredibly thoughtful. Thank you also for the message I have received from children, they certainly have placed a smile on my face. To date it is not clear how long schools will be closed and over the last week we have been implementing plans to provide virtual lessons in addition to Google Classroom.

We have put in place a plan for virtual lessons using a programme known as zoom. https://zoom.us/ We are keen to ensure that our children's education continues, and they are given challenges that will enable them to continue purposeful learning at home.

For this we have not created a user guide as each device works differently. For tablets, phones and Mac's, you will need to download the app Zoom. The icon will look as below:



For windows users, you will not need an app as it will open in your browser window. Just remember to turn your audio and video on so we can see and hear you.

We are planning to go live with Zoom virtual activities from Tuesday 21st April, the beginning of the summer term. Each class teacher will be in touch with you individually with additional details. As we are trialling this, we may encounter some issues which we would ask that you bear with us while we navigate this with your support.

How to access the lessons?

Your child will have a link to the virtual lesson posted on Google Classroom. Once they click on the link, they will be taken to the lesson where the teacher will be supporting learning. Each classroom is planned for 30 minutes, but this may vary depending on the learning taking place. You must be enrolled in Google Classroom to access the link for safeguarding reasons.

Class teacher will share a timetable showing when and which lessons will take place. During this trial period we will be looking to conduct 1 class per week to build in more if the lessons are successful.

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Some of these lessons may be recorded and posted online for children's references. Please note that none of your children's details will be recorded in the lesson. You need to be aware of where your child is working as they will be seen by other children and teachers. If your child does not behave appropriately, they will not be invited to join future sessions.

In addition to 1 lesson per week, delivered by individual class teachers, we will also be delivering 1 Yoga lesson per week delivered by Mrs Haria, further details to follow.

Please be prompt in signing into the lessons so they can be as effective as possible.

Tips and ideas:

I have recently received an email from a well-wisher, Nisha Hirani, a Nutrition and Wellness Coach. Nisha has some free platforms available and would like to offer her support in the following areas:

- 1. Online Fit-classes
- 2. Educational Nutrition Education Hour
- 3. Opportunity Information Evening
- 4. 1:1 no obligation Wellness Evaluations.

If you think this is an area you require support, you can contact Nisha on nishahirani24fit@gmail.com

I would like to emphasise that the School/I are not endorsing companies we share with you. By sharing this information, the School/I have not competed any research on these companies, however in these unprecedented times, they have offered their services for free, definitely an act of kindness. The rest is entirely up to each individual.

Amazing Artwork:





Thank you Om, for sharing your work, keep it up!

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Sherpa Kids:

I would like to extend my gratitude towards Sherpa Kids for sharing their plans with the school. They have planned many fun activities which can be delivered at home whenever you have free time. Please see attached.

In my last update, we shared different ways our children could put their memories together, thank you to one of our parents for sharing a template that makes it easier to do this, see attached.

Child line have provided a couple of links that are fun and supportive. If you try them at home, let us know how it went.

https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/games/

Talking to children about the current crisis:

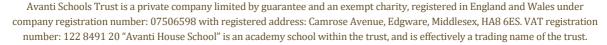
An excellent free e-book produced by Nosy Crow children's books (see E-book attached to this email) has been published this week providing a clear and concise introduction for children aged 5-9 to the Coronavirus outbreak and the importance of hygiene.

Illustrator Axel Scheffler commented, "I think it is extremely important for children and families to have access to good and reliable information in this unprecedented crisis, and I hope that the popularity of the books I've done with Julia Donaldson will ensure that this digital book will reach many children who are now slightly older, but might still remember our picture books."

Character Building:

This extended time at home will give many of us an opportunity to reflect on what type of person we are and want to be. There is an opportunity for all of us to emerge from this crisis as more resilient, compassionate and generous people.

As a school, we want to continue to promote character development and reflection for our children. I have shared a few activities you can do at home to encourage our children to develop positive character virtues during this time.









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Generosity

Do I need all this stuff? Use this opportunity to have a look at all your belongings and clothes. Have a route around in your bedroom, wardrobes and drawers. Is there anything that you might be able to donate to someone after the crisis has finished? Do you need all 7 pairs of trainers or jeans? Are there any old toys or games you own that are gathering dust? What could you give away? How might you simplify? See if you can get your friends to pitch in too!

Kindness

Paying It Forward What are you currently grateful for? Make a list of 5 things. How might you be able to demonstrate the things you are grateful for and "pay it forward" by doing similar kind acts for others?

Self-motivation

Upskilling and improving This is an opportunity to develop a new skill or take up a new hobby? There are lots of opportunities to learn an instrument, a new language or read some new books! Check out https://try.fender.com/play/playthrough/ for free guitar lessons!

Thank you for your continuous support during these difficult times.

Shriti Bellare Principal

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