



AVANTI HOUSE

Excellence · Virtue · Devotion

AVANTI HOUSE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Common Road
Stanmore
Middlesex
HA7 3JB
020 8249 6831 Option 1

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

26th January 2021

Dear parents/carers,

We hope that you are well and safe and able to enjoy whatever's left of the snow.

Thank you for your feedback regarding the remote education package that we are currently providing at Avanti House Primary School.

Although we would have liked to achieve a higher response rate, those who did reply have given us some valuable insights into the current offer and have confirmed that the provision across the school is adequate, overall meeting the needs of the child(ren).

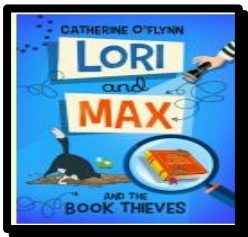
When designing the individual surveys for each year group, our Senior Leadership Team carefully chose questions to allow for parents to have a platform whereby constructive feedback could be given. This was achieved, mostly, so we thank you for sharing your opinions and suggestions. In contrast, we have also received isolated comments from a small number of parents who have openly compared teachers to each other within our school. At a time where both teachers and parents have had to make huge adjustments to their 'norm' to ensure that the educational provision for the children is not impacted, we have found these comments to be inappropriate and demotivating for staff.

In order for us to harness a better and stronger partnership between the home and school, we will continue to communicate and request feedback openly and professionally with all stakeholders. This will fuel our growth and development but please consider the words of Frank A Clark, "Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man's growth without destroying his roots." Our priority is to create a culture of openness underpinned by respect. Thank you.

Collective Worship

Apologies once again for the technical issues experienced during last week's Collective Worship. Unfortunately, there was a limit on the number of participants so many of you could not join the call. From this week onwards, we will post a recording of our Collective Worship assembly on Google Classroom/ Tapestry for children to view at 1 pm. This will happen every Friday.

Talking to children about the current crisis



Catherine O'Flynn's new book Lori and Max and the Book Thieves includes a plot about a boy affected by the closure of his school.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2020/november/telling-the-story-of-the-invisible-children-catherine-oflynn-on-the-impact-of-school-closures/>

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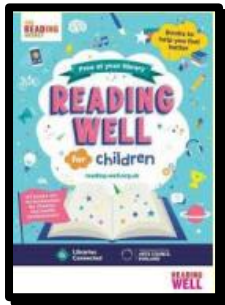
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Author and illustrator Cori Doerrfeld suggests that there's a way to help children see the positive side of change, and find a new 'hello' after a 'goodbye'.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2020/november/goodbye-hello-helping-children-to-cope-with-change/>

Reading Well



Parents and teachers may find titles on the new Reading Well booklists for children useful to help children adjust to new routines and cope with disturbing news stories or sad news.

<https://reading-well.org.uk/>

The Books on Prescription scheme has now been extended to cover picture books for young children:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/feb/06/picture-books-on-prescription-the-new-chapter-in-childrens-mental-wellbeing>

Online Virtual Library

Introducing the Virtual School Library!

Oak National Academy and the National Literacy Trust have come together to launch our [Virtual School Library](#) to keep children reading during lockdown.

Every week, a popular children's author will become our '[Author of the Week](#)' and provide a free book or audiobook and exclusive videos and activities aimed at primary school children, all available at library.thenational.academy.

Our first [Author of the Week](#) is Dame Jacqueline Wilson DBE, who talks about how her infamous character Tracy Beaker got her name, offers exclusive activities and recommends her top reads to check out. *The Story of Tracy Beaker* is also available to read for free for a week. Spread the word!

[Visit the Virtual School Library](#)

Click here: <https://library.thenational.academy/>

You can read more about it here

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-55692137>

Free audio books for children are also available here: <https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

We wish you all a very good week and again would like to thank you for working closely with your child(ren) and us to triangulate an appropriate package of education for them.

Hare Krishna

Mr Koorichh and Mrs Joshi

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