

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

12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Families,

Having come to the end of a week filled with many challenges, we write this letter with much gratitude to each and every member of the Avanti House Primary School Community. Whilst individual families have experienced some issues with technology, overall teaching and learning has continued to happen to the high standards that we have grown to expect at our wonderful school. Thank you.

# **Google classroom**

The programme of learning offered has been developed to include a blend of live sessions and independent learning tasks. As we continue to use platforms such as google classroom and zoom, we endeavour to further improve the quality of provision for the benefit of our budding young learners. For those families who continue to have challenges with uploading work, please follow the link below to access a video on showing you how to do this and more: Scroll to the bottom of the page to remote learning: <u>https://avanti.org.uk/learningonline/</u>

If you have any concerns about the current provision that your child is receiving, please contact the school office in the first instance who will then signpost your query to the relevant teachers: ahs.primary@avanti.org.uk . Google Classroom messages to teachers should be used to support the children and discuss their learning.

# Accessing google classroom using Xbox/Playstation

For those of you who are using one device for several children to complete online work, you may find the following link useful as several of the children have mentioned that they have Xboxes and Playstations at home: https://www.pocketlint.com/apps/news/google/155204-how-to-use-google-classroom-on-xbox-and-playstation

# **Physical activity**

Physical activity continues to be a priority for all, especially during lockdown where restrictions are heightened to limit the spread of the virus. We all need different types of physical activity to help maintain and develop our bodies and to keep us healthy and fit. We would like to share some useful tips that have been recommended by the Youth Sports Trust:

Everyday movement: Take the stairs, do different chores like vacuuming and help in the garden.

Active play: Ball games, tag, frisbee, trampoline, swing ball, skipping, backyard cricket, hopscotch, skateboarding, skipping. Active transport: Walk or cycle in your local area, to the shops or go to the park.

Family activities: Trip to the park, weekend walk, family cycle (all remembering social distancing from others).

It is important for children and young people to engage in a variety of different activities to develop balance, coordination, good posture, muscle strength, strong bones and fitness. To support this, we are uploading weekly ASMA workouts for all classes on google classroom/Tapestry (EYFS) for children to complete whilst at home. These sessions will be posted every week on a Monday onto each classes google classroom as 'P.E.'. Feel free to take pictures and upload them to share. Finally, all children will have the opportunity to engage with the Winter Olympics Sock Challenge, details will be shared in next Tuesday's letter to parents.

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# DfE guidance amended guidance for parents

The guidance on critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings has also been updated to clarify that parents and carers who are critical keyworkers should keep their children at home if they can. "Your child's school or college will speak to you to identify whether your child needs to attend. You should keep your child at home if you can. They may ask to see simple evidence to check whether you are a critical worker such as your work ID badge or a pay slip." *DFE January 2021* 

We appreciate that it is not possible for all families to keep their child(ren) at home and so we continue to offer provision for critical keyworker children and vulnerable children. A huge thank you to those families who initially requested a place but have since made alternative arrangements.

# Children's mental health week - resources from the Anna Freud Centre

We are pleased to share that Avanti Schools Trust have arranged for schools to have access to various resources to support with the mental health of children and young people. The Anna Freud Centre has published its Children Mental Health Week Toolkit (1<sup>st</sup> February – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2021). The toolkit; comprising a range of resources and guidance for children, parents, carers and school staff specifically designed with practical tools to support children's mental health during the coronavirus crisis. To access the resources, click on the link below.

https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/risks-and-protective-factors/coronavirus-supporting-childrens-mentalhealth/?utm\_source=partners&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=cmhw21\_

### Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact the Safeguarding Leads: Mr Koorichh: <u>dravit.koorichh@avanti.org.uk</u> Mrs Joshi: <u>Lalita.joshi@avanti.org.uk</u> Or phone Harrow's Golden Number (Child Assessment) on 0208 901 2690.

On a final note, please feel free to access further online resources to support your child(ren) with their learning at home by visiting the following Government endorsed websites: <u>https://www.thenational.academy/</u> <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zvryp4j</u>

Please find attached Spring 1 diary dates, we look forward to your participation in some of the workshops on offer.

'The meaning of life is to find our gift. The purpose of life is to share it'. Thank you for sharing your gift(s) and giving us the opportunity to serve them. Very best wishes to you all. Stay safe!

Hare Krishna

Mr Koorichh and Mrs Joshi

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