

The Avanti Park Post

ISSUE 13 21st June 2021

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL Dear parents and carers

Library

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It has been such a lovely atmosphere in school these last two weeks, despite some very warm classrooms! The library is now complete and being enjoyed by our primary pupils. It is a lovely calm space where pupils can sit quietly and enjoy a book. We are having a delivery of new books next week and the PTFA have set up a 'buy a book' scheme where parents can purchase a book from a list held at the Hunting Raven Bookshop in Frome. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of the PTFA and parents to help complete this project.

Forest School

We have some good news to share about forest school for next year. Many of you have asked if we can provide forest school sessions for more children. We are delighted to let you know that Liz Clark will be running forest school sessions for every class in primary from September. Liz is a Level 3 qualified Forest School Leader and has run forest school activities for many years. Each class will have one hour a fortnight to enjoy Liz's brilliantly planned forest school lessons. She will also continue to offer small group sessions for those pupils who have been identified as needing a little more support in school.

Theatre Company Visit

On Thursday afternoon, Year 7 and 8 participated in theatre workshops run by West End in Schools. They had a fantastic time and participated with huge enthusiasm. Thanks to Anita Bell for arranging this wonderful activity.

I hope you have a wonderful week.

With best wishes

Abby Atkins

The Library is open!





"It's been a long slog, but thanks to some dedicated work from our amazing team of LSAs after school this week, we finally have a beautiful & inviting library space to foster the love of reading at Avanti Park. Many thanks to the PTFA for all your contributions to this project, which will benefit all the children immeasurably."







Dates for your Diary

<u>Summary of changes to Transition</u> Events:

Due to the recent government announcement saying that the current Covid-19 restrictions will continue until 19.07.21, we have had to revise our transition plans.

These changes will only affect the parents and carers of our current Reception - Year 5 pupils.

Postponed:

07.07.21 - Postponed 'Meet the Teacher' Event 12.07.21 - Postponed 'Celebration of Learning' Evening

Rescheduled: 20.07.21 - (4:00-5:30pm) New Date for amalgamated Meet the Teacher (4:00-4:30pm) & Celebration of Learning (4:30-5:30pm).



Dates for your Diary

JUNE/JULY	Mon			Thurs		Sat	Sun
Week B	21 st	22 nd Virtual Open Day	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27th
Week A	28 th	29 th Visitors from Frome College – (Heads of Houses) year 8 talk	30 th Year 6 transition meeting (parents & students)	1 st July	2 nd Stay & Play (new starters)	3 rd	4 th
Week B	5 th	6 th	7 th Transition Day (all classes move up & Year 8 to Frome College)	8 th	9 th Stay & Play (new starters)	10 th	11th
Week A	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th Olympics showcase	16 th	17 th	18 th
Week B	19 th	20 th Meet the teacher/ Celebration of learning years 1- 5	21 st	22 nd	23 rd LAST DAY OF TERM	24 th SUMMER HOLS	25 th SUMMER HOLS

Attendance

Our Whole school Target for Attendance is 97% - 100%

Our Whole school Attendance for this week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
91.3%	92.1 %	89.4%	90.1%	91.8 %

Let's see if we can improve this week.



*** EARLIER ARRIVAL TIMES IN THE MORNING ***

All lower school children will now arrive at the same time 8:40 a.m.

Years 1 - 6 children will be taken into class at 8:50, the gates are closed at 8:50 a.m.

Year 7 & 8 need to be in class by 8:45 a.m.

Kathryn Mason



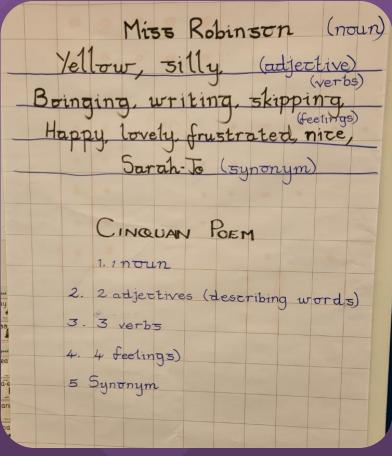
Celebration of Learning





Active Maths Practice

This is Y1 exploring number lines, chunking numbers, and the benefits of counting in 10s



Humorous poem by Year 1 Oak



Rainforest inspired collages from Year Two Cherry Class.













Years 3 & 4 made fabulous models of Stonehenge using a variety of materials.
'biscuit henge' was a firm favourite with the children











Dress code/Uniform

UNIFORM DEADLINE:
Please Order by the 1st
AUGUST for home
delivery before the start
of new term.

Current lead time = 8-10 weeks





Please click on the link below or visit our website for details on the Uniform requirements for September 2021

<u>Avanti Park Uniform Requirements Sept 2021</u>



PTFA



What a week it's been, filled to the brim with the restorative warmth of summer sunshine, with dashes of summer rain to keep us on our toes!

Thank you to the parents who joined us at our PTFA afternoon tea parties last week. It was wonderful to see you, and great to hear your ideas and thoughts.

The PTFA's 'Buy-A-Book' scheme is up and running. Our first stash of books has arrived from Hunting Raven from a very generous set of grandparents. It was very exciting to open the bags! The 'Buy-a-Book' scheme is a fantastic opportunity to enrich the school's Primary Library with amazing books to ignite our children's imaginations and their love of reading. If you or another family member is interested in supporting this initiative, you can find the list of the 'Buy-a-Book' titles here.

Lastly, we will be hosting an EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) to elect a new Chair for the PTFA committee on Monday July 5th at 8pm on Zoom. If you are interested in becoming our next Chair, or if you would like to attend the EGM, please

email us and we will send you more information.

Wishing you all a lovely week ahead,

Avanti Park PFTA avantiparkptfa@gmail.com





Buy-a-book Scheme





- Parents (or anyone else!) are invited to buy a book from the list through Hunting Raven, who are kindly holding this list for us; you can buy over the phone or in person.
- -You could choose a title you love from the list or get Hunting Raven to choose for you!
- -The PTFA will collect the books from Hunting Raven and bring them to the school.
- Please mention to Hunting Raven that you are purchasing the book for our school library so they can apply a 12.5% discount.
- Hunting Raven will let us know who has donated which book, we will remove the title from our list and the PTFA will add a 'donated by' stamp, inside the cover to recognise your generous contribution. Please consider buying a book to grow the library, and share with grandparents, carers and other friends and supporters of the school!

Gardening Club



GARDENING CLUB UPDATE!



Thanks to our lovely parent volunteers we were able to get cracking with some of the heavier tasks last Wednesday after the club. We got loads done and things are really taking off!

Last Wednesday we planted out a bed in the 3 sisters design from seedlings we grew from seed - corn, beans and squash - which help each other grow. I began by reading a story to illustrate this - you can find more information and the story here:

https://ganondagan.org/learn/legend-of-the-three-sisters

The beans were saved from my personal plot last year - some of the boys sorted these a few weeks back from their dried pods, along with my red orache saved seeds.

We also harvested radishes for the children to take home - a sweet reward for hard work done! Check out the photos here!

The potato beds are thriving, including the sweet potatoes and the more recently planted beds, where we did some intercropping with the radishes. The strawberries and lettuces of various exciting heritage and heirloom varieties are also coming along nicely.

The heartsease plant we transplanted from my plot as a May day activity is doing well; the children were supposed to bring home a few of these wonderful and medicinal flowers - a few weeks back, but they all got munched I think! They are great to decorate cakes and salads. The seedlings have survived the heat - we have sown tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, cabbages, 2 types of heritage kales, artichokes, purple sprouting broccoli, peas, and companion planting flowers - marigolds, calendula and nasturtiums.



Gardening Club



AVANTI PARK
Excellence · Virtue · Devotion

It's been lovely to put out the delightful hand-painted signs into the beds as we plant the crops - that the children made back on the wet session at the end of April, when we kept warm inside the polytunnel with vegan hot choc and marshmallows!

Some highlights for me have been watching the children excitedly spot frogs and insects as we work, and their re-homing of the dreaded slugs! And of course making the bug hotels. We used recycled and found materials such as hollow old stems of plants left uncleared - which of course is exactly what the bugs would live in without any human meddling! A reason why lazy gardening and keeping wild patches uncleared is a good thing!

I'm hoping to soon hear how the tomatoes, sunflowers, potatoes and onions that the children have taken home are growing. And if anyone had any bugs move into their eco bug hotels yet!

This week amongst other tasks I plan to clear some of the red orache we sowed direct into the beds a few weeks back. So the children can take home a seedling. It is a fantastic purple-coloured prolific self seeding leafy plant that you can use in salads when the leaves are small and in place of spinach as leaves grow. Let it go to seed and you will have millions of free plants to share next year!

Happy sunny day to you all Warm wishes, Zosia





UPDATE: Christmas Shoe Box Appeal



Avanti Park was delighted to support the FSCI Christmas Box Appeal last year. Thank you to all those families who made the commitment of time and money in such challenging circumstances, to contribute a box. Thousands of children and families in institutions, kindergartens and schools in poor rural and urban areas, senior citizens homes, Roma communities, protected homes and refugee centres throughout Bulgaria received Christmas presents as a result of the generosity of those taking part in the appeal, with a total 6,492 boxes distributed.

Teodora Koleva, Director of FSCI Bulgaria, is in no doubt about the importance of the project. "With these presents, we show the most vulnerable children and families that we think of them and believe in them, even more so in these challenging times. Thank you to everybody who contributed to the appeal once again!"

COVID made for a very different feel to this year's campaign. Rich Parsons, the project leader says, "It was a real relief to see all your Christmas boxes arrive in Bulgaria after being delayed because of COVID and other things beyond our control. Despite all the difficulties, we were encouraged by our wonderful volunteers who helped to check and pack all the boxes, and of course by the number of presents we received from our amazing supporters, many of whom were only too pleased to be doing something to help others during this difficult period".

Thank you again for helping (our school) to be part of this! You can see Christmas boxes being distributed here or go to YouTube and search "FSCI (UK)".



Stay Safe, be well.





