

### ISSUE 29 27th May 2022

AVANTI PARK

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# The Avanti Park Post

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to those of you were able to attend the open classrooms last Friday. There was a lovely atmosphere in the school, and the children are so proud to share their work. We always arrange for a member of staff to look at the work of any child whose parent can not attend so that they are well looked after too.

This week saw our first summer school trip. The EYFS children went to Haynes Motor Museum as part of their Transport topic. Thank you to the EYFS team who planned it so carefully. The children were so excited as were the parents who helped! The trip was a great success.

The year 6, 7 and 8 residential leaves for Torquay in Sunday June 5th, and so fingers crossed for sunny weather.

Just a little plea - I spend a lot of my day trying to reunite school jumpers, coats, and bottles with their owners. You would be amazed as to how many are not named. Please can you name all of your child's belongings as it will make my job so much easier, and our lost property box will be much emptier!

Have a wonderful break and I hope you get to spend some time with family and friends

See you on the 6th of June

With best wishes

Abby Atkins

NUT FREE SCHOOL









## **Notices**



#### WELCOME

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new family who joined Avanti Park over the last couple of weeks: Nina S in Oak class, we hope you have a wonderful time at Avanti Park.

There have been an increasing number of injuries sustained in the park before school. This is often concerning our older students who are unsupervised. Please can you ensure children your are using helmets and other adequate protective gear if using the ramps before school.

Please label ALL clothes ready for next term

#### **UNIFORM ORDERS**

NSET DAYS

Thurs 9th

Uniform and branded school bags can now be ordered on ParentPay (the same website as lunch orders). We will be processing orders once a term, (2 weeks before the end of term). Items will be delivered to the school, and will arrive pre-packaged with your child's name, and handed to them in class. There will be no delivery charge for uniform orders made through ParentPay.

# **Staffing update for September 2022**



We have had a busy few weeks appointing new staff for September 2022. As we are expanding, we have appointed 5 new teachers, 3 for primary and two for secondary. The interest in our posts has been incredible and we have appointed fantastic staff who are a perfect fit for our school ethos. You will find a little introduction and photograph of all the new staff below. Some of these staff will be in school on the transition day on July 6<sup>th</sup> and so you may meet them then.

You will notice that Simon Goldsworthy will become the new KS2 Phase Lead. Claire Welling Herrera, who is currently KS2 Phase Lead, has decided to reduce her responsibilities and will become Deputy Phase Lead from September.

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Jen McMillan at the end of July. She has been appointed as the Head of School at a small new therapeutic school due to open in Westbury in September. Before working at Avanti Park, Jen worked in special education and so even though she has loved working here she is going back to her roots. Jen has done a tremendous job at Avanti Park, and will be missed by staff, pupils, and parents. We have been lucky enough to recruit Jane Smalley to replace Jen as Assistant Principal - Inclusion. Jane will start in September and her role will include being the SEND Coordinator for the school.

Gemma Martin – KS1 Teacher – Info to follow soon



### **Rachel Connew - KS2 Teacher**

My name is Miss Connew;

I began working in schools in 2015 as a Teaching assistant in a school for Special educational need, which I really enjoyed and led me to train as a teacher. I became a class teacher in 2017 and since then I have taught year 1,2,3,4 and 5. Before qualifying as a teacher I studied Dance at University and then taught dance in the community. I still love dancing and attend classes whenever I can.

I enjoy making the lessons I teach as exciting as possible using my creative background to allow classes to use dance and drama to explore topics.





## Zoe Bolton – KS3 English Teacher

I moved to Frome just under a year ago and am really enjoying the sense of community here as well as exploring the many beautiful surrounding areas. I am excited about starting at Avanti Park School, right in the centre of such a vibrant, creative town. During my interview day at the school, I was impressed by how inspiring, calm and friendly the school is. I have taught English in secondary schools for nearly 10 years, in Brighton, London and Bromley. Prior to this, I taught English in Japan and on returning to the U.K, studied Creative Writing at The University of East Anglia. I particularly love teaching

creative writing in the classroom. In my spare time, when I am not busy running around after my two-year-old daughter, Rowan, I enjoy swimming, running and Pilates. I also love having a creative project on the go, most recently spending a very long time sewing a top for Rowan (here's hoping it still fits her when I finally finish it!)



## Jane Smalley – Assistant Principal -Inclusion

Jane is approachable and empathetic. She brings a great deal of experience in supporting pupils with additional needs. She has worked for the local authority as an advisory teacher and is currently Head of the Autism Base here in Frome. Jane's role will bring together responsibility for safeguarding, attendance, pupils with SEND and putting inclusion at the heart of our vision at Avanti Park.



# Rebecca Calder – KS3 Geography and Science Teacher

Hello everyone! My name is Rebecca Calder and I am excited to be joining Avanti Park in September as a Geography and Science Teacher. I'm from Canada originally and have been teaching in the UK since 2008. In my spare time I love travelling, hiking, kayaking, gardening, cooking and reading. I'm relocating to Somerset and am excited about exploring the area. Have a lovely summer and I can't wait to meet you all!



## Simon Goldsworthy – KS2 Teacher and Head of Phase for KS2

Hello Children and Parents,

My name is Simon Goldsworthy, and I'm incredibly excited to be joining the Avanti Park community this September as Key Stage 2 Leader. Originally born in London, I was trained as a teacher in Bristol, and spent the first part of my career teaching across the border in Wales. I have also spent time teaching in Costa Rica, for a highly respected International School, which has given me an appreciation for learning languages and reminded me of the importance of being a lifelong learner. During the last year, I worked for an NGO in Africa, training other teachers within a school that tries to give disadvantaged children the best head start possible. I love to travel, and believe children should be taught to look outwards, and realise what makes us similar, rather than different. I also like to scuba dive, hike, and do a little programming in my spare time. I hope to bring these experiences into my classroom, in order to help my children find and develop their passions. I look forward to meeting you in person in the Autumn.



Simon.

# **EYFS Trip to Haynes Motor Museum**



## In the classroom – Forest School





At forest school this term we have been enjoying having fun, making clay mini beasts, bug hunting, bird watching, playing games as a team, potion making, bug hotel making and having end of term campfires.





## In the Classroom





Will in Holly class wearing the brilliant helmet that he made as part of a home learning project

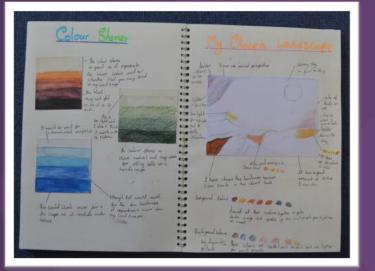




Using their knowledge of electrical circuits, children in Holly Class worked in groups to design and build a set of working traffic lights. The challenge was to make a circuit which they could control to ensure only one light came on at a time.

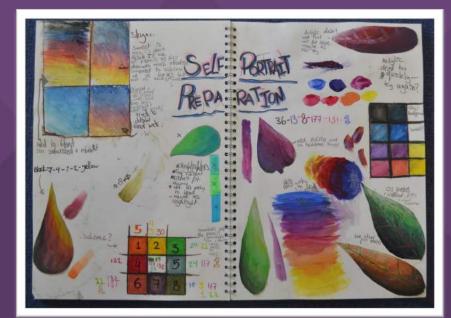
## In the Classroom







Preparation pages for Year 7 landscape painting







## In the Classroom





Safety - has been a key word over the recent weeks; specifically Personal Safety with our Year 8 Class and Road Safety with our KS1 children.

Our KS1 children were given an invaluable workshop about Road Safety, here is an excellent, well-thought out piece of home learning from one of Year 2 children. Our Year 8 were given an essential workshop delivered by Stand Against Violence <u>https://www.facebook.com/SAViolence/</u> it involved a hands-on self defence workshop, as well as talks and videos.

Sage, all All was stop, look, liston, and think. Newer ride in a car without Seat port distract the driver will grash. There. 7 Tebra Crossu Rolican

## Bike fun day



Avanti pupils (and staff!) had fun this week with pedal powered equipment in celebration travelling actively to school. Using only the power of their legs they danced at the bubble disco using a pedal powered speaker and bubble machine, made spin-paint pictures and took part in a duck race by pedalling as fast as they could to blow their duck along the water. The fun day was organinsed by Frome Town Council and planned to celebrate and promote active journeys to school. In this academic year Avanti Park School have taken part in the Frome Active Travel Challenge, Sustrans' Big Walk and Wheel, School Streets events and signed up to Modeshft Stars. This means more families walking, cycling and scooting to school or parking further away and walking the rest of the journey. If you'd like to try out the pedal powered equipment for yourself it will be out and about in Frome next week at the Jubilee Celebration on Thursday 2nd June, 2-4pm at the Old Showfield and at the Frome Independent on Sunday

5<sup>th</sup> June raising money for Frome's Missing Links.







## **Bikeability Course - April 2022**



AVANTI PARK

Congratulations to all our Year 5, 6 and 7 students who passed their Bikeability course in April! The next course will take place during the Easter Holidays next year.

## Notices



At Avanti Park School, we love reading! For this reason, we have been busy creating recommended reading lists which will be on our school website for each year group based on the 100 books that every child should read before they leave primary school. If you would like to, we are very lucky to have the support of Hunting Raven where parents can buy a book for our school and many of these books can be found there. We have exciting things coming for our school library too - we will be working on making it into a wonderful, magical space where children can get lost inside a book. If you know of anyone with an unused rowboat that would like to see it repurposed as a reading sofa... please get in touch!

#### **Fixed Penalty notices.**

From September, the Local Authority will be stepping up their response to holidays taken in term time. Holidays taken during term time will incur a fine (£60 per parent, per child).

### Our Open Day is open to all.

**Big Kids too!** 

Tired of dull weekdays? Want to try something new, learn new skills and meet a whole new group of friends? We're looking for adult volunteers,

Why not come along to a taster session with 1st & 7th Frome (Jubilee) Scout Group, Sunday 29th May, 10am-12pm.

Each week we help young people have fun and experience adventure, while developing skills for life. Why not be one of them?

Join us 29th May, 10am until 12pm at 1st and 7th Scout Hut, Welshmill Road, Frome, BA11 3AP

facebook.com/1and7scouts/ #SkillsForLife





## Summer Fair: Can you give 1 hour?

### We are hoping all parents who can, will volunteer 1 hour on the day of our Summer Fair.

Each class has an area to help organise. Contact your PTFA Class Rep to sign-up for your 1-hour timeslot:

<u>Class</u>	Rep	Activity
Pine	Anna & Jenn	Market stalls, Raffle & Gate
Maple	Laura	Family workshops
Beech	Tamsin & Ellen	Outdoor craft
Oak	Lucy	Cake sale
Ash	Emma & Stef	Hot food
Sycamore	Elise	Craft activities
Chestnut	Katie	Craft activities
Rowan	Eleanor	Ice creams
Holly	Rose	Hot food
Cedar	Christine & Mar	ndy Jumble sale & Mandy
Yr 7 & 8	Eleanor & Emily	Sports & games

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, allowing us to buy much-needed items for our kids: sports equipment (needed each year), library books, creative workshops, benches, two festival days per year, hardship fund & more.

We simply can't do it without you.

We are looking for extra help from any parents in: **Food serving** 

Sign-up for Food here: https://tinyurl.com/2p8k7yab

Want to volunteer in another way? avantiparkPTFA@Gmail.com



## Summer Fair : get ready!



AVANTI PARK SUMMER FAIR SATURDAY 2 JULY

# **ITAM-3PM FREE ENTRY \* EVERYONE WELCOME**

Pre-loved sale, family workshops, crafts and activities, raffle, live music and performances, food and drinks.

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL \* PARK ROAD \* FROME BA11 1EU



Get ready for our biggest fundraiser of the year, allowing us to buy much needed items for our kids!

# Pre-loved sale: start saving!

Are you having a half term de-clutter at home? Please save your pre-loved items for our jumble sale as we would love your donations – especially of children's school uniforms and good quality books.

More details to come after half term for collection points...

## Market stalls: only £10

Do you have something to sell? Crafts, home décor, handmade items? We'll have over a dozen market tables at our Fair. We are giving parents priority, before reaching out to the wider public.

To book: avantiparkPTFA@Gmail.com

## **Raffle prize: donations?**

We are hoping to showcase parent-led businesses with our raffle and have 4 fab donations already! We'll highlight all prizes & businesses on our Facebook page too. To donate: avantiparkPTFA@Gmail.com



# **PTFA Happenings**

# Calling all: artists, illustrators, designers & others with visual flair

We are hoping that the talented parent community might be able to help with a creative project.

The idea is for each of the 14 classes to have a small painting of their class tree outside their classrooms, to help create a class identity (and add beauty to everyone's days).

If you might have time and materials to create one (or more) A5 tree paintings please get in touch and we'll distribute the tree commissions.

Contact: Wendy on <u>wendy\_liz@hotmail.com</u>, with 'APS Tree Paintings' in the subject line! Thank you in advance.





# Fundraising



#### JAMIE'S MTB CHALLENGE UPDATE - Summer 2022 tbc - UPDATE - commencing wb/ 22/8/22 - Monday 22nd August 2022

I have been blessed to work with WHY (We Hear You) yet again. This charity is awesome, they are fantastic for the local community and for the wider issues in which they tackle, and which affect us all the world over.

They have helped me with bereavement counselling since my mum passed away in 2018. They help with families and individuals who have been through the trauma of fatal illnesses and disease.

My goal is to climb (on my mountain bike) 36,201ft (the equivalent elevation gain as the depth of the Mariana Trench) to raise funds for WHY and in honour of my mum. That's over 6000ft higher than Mt Everest and one of the toughest challenges I know of. I aim to do the challenge in a week. Exact date and location are yet decided but I am looking for a suitable place as local as possible with the aim of doing this next spring/summer.

I have estimated it will be 12 hours of climbing, 16/18hrs in the saddle, it will take me over 100 miles of climbing so will be my first century MTB ride. It will be close to 400 miles in total.

I'm wanting to complete the challenge in similar style to Everesting - so will be up and down the same hill section multiple times to complete the challenge and gain the elevation - I aim to do an Everesting challenge at the same time then I will rest for the last push of 6000+ft.

Considering Gare Hill - with 300+ft elevation gain, it's a slog of a long climb at over 1 mile long and not a local mountain bikers favourite by far but the run downhill will be fast and should last a bit, it's straight so no berms or off camber corners. It's a fire road, smooth and in good condition so should run nice both ways making for a good option. I wanted something more extreme for the downhill but it's a fine balance between climbing 20% plus gradients all day and having a more mellow DH run.

More information on the challenge, Everesting and the Mariana Trench can be found on the link below – please show your support and feel free to take part on the day/week. I will be seeking local sponsorship and support from Pronto, WHY and Frome FM as well as drawing on contact in the MTB world – special support from Dirtwarz UK (top UK MTB, jump, stunt and slope style event). I hope to gather a group of riders (mainly local) to take part in this challenge and gain maximum fundraising, support and exposure.

#### Rough order of events

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Everesting (riding until the challenge is complete) Tuesday/Wednesday – Sunday completing rest of MTB challenge (Tuesday-Wednesday will be recovery and sleep)

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/themtb

## Chicken pox and scarlet fever



We are reminding parents and carers of the symptoms of both scarlet fever and chickenpox following a rise in cases across the country. Levels for both infections are in line with what we expect to see at this time of year, but there has been an increase compared to 2021 when measures during the pandemic such as social distancing, enhanced hygiene and school and nursery closures kept cases below average.

The first signs of scarlet fever are flu-like symptoms such as:

- High temperature
- Sore throat and swollen neck glands
- A bumpy, rough feeling rash usually appears after 12 to 48 hours on the chest and tummy.

If you think your child is showing signs of scarlet fever it's important to contact your local GP or <u>NHS</u> 111. Stay away from nursery, school or work for 24 hours after taking the 1st dose of antibiotics.

An itchy, spotty rash is the main symptom of chickenpox. Other symptoms include:

- a high temperature
- aches and pains
- and generally feeling unwell.

Stay away from work, nursery or school until all spots have formed scabs.

For further information on scarlet fever or chickenpox, please visit the <u>NHS website</u>.



## **Traffic and Pedestrian Management Plan**

Please see below a copy of the school *Traffic and Pedestrian Management Plan* details of which have been in place since the school first opened in Frome in September 2014. Please can we ask all parents to read this carefully. Many thanks, the Avanti Park Health & Safety Team.

#### TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### **Pedestrian Movement:**

We ask all parents to ensure their children walk, cycle or scoot to school where possible.

Parents, pupils, and staff are asked to use the pavements and to be thoughtful about other pedestrians' using Park Road.

Pupils on scooters and bikes are requested to walk their bikes once they reach the boundaries of the school, at the main school entrance and down the school road to the pond gate.

There are several stone and brick walls bordering the school grounds including a low wall on the edge of the neighbouring Christchurch Parish Hall. We request that parents do not let their children walk along these walls as we cannot guarantee their safety.

No pedestrians to walk to or from the pond gate through the car park

#### Vehicle Movement:

As a school community our aim is to limit vehicles entering Park Road as it is a no through road and there is very limited parking on the road. We request that parents driving from a distance to the school park in one of the local car parks or in the surrounding area and walk their children into school.

#### Limiting vehicle movement is important for:

- Safety of pupils and parents
- Safety of other pedestrians and Park users
- Being good neighbours to people who live and work on Park Road
- Vehicle use of the Car Park:

There is no drop off parking at the school site for parents except by special arrangement.

There are four drop off spaces and three disabled spaces that are for the use of pupils with access needs and these spaces need to be arranged with either the school Business manager or the school SENDCo

There is a one-way system in place in the car park and all vehicles will enter via the top entrance

All vehicles to drive at a maximum speed of 5mph

The car park will be assessed for safety in conditions of ice and snow and may on occasion be closed by the Health & Safety team in order to keep staff, pupils, and parents safe.

No vehicles will be allowed on site during the school day unless accompanied by two members of the Site and Health & Safety Team.



## **Special Thanks**

We are continuing our "Special Thanks" scheme in to the new year whereby parents, guardians, and carers are able to nominate and recognise staff for their efforts for supporting members in our Avanti community. This scheme was piloted at Avanti Park last year and made a real difference to our staff and their wellbeing.

To nominate a member of staff, please click on the following link:

https://avanti.org.uk/avantipark/parents/staffnominations-for-special-thanks/



## Stay Safe, Be Well

#### **<u>Right of the week</u>**

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment.



