

# EARLY YEARS EDITORIAL



AVANTI BROOK  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARACTER FORMATION

## Reception- Start Class

This week's story was 'The Wonder' by Faye Hanson. This is a whimsical story all about a boy with a big imagination. We used this story to launch a host of imaginative challenges over the course of the week that the children loved taking part in. One of our activities was making predictions about what would happen when we added white flowers to water with food colouring. We will watch over the course of next week to see if anything changes; three days later and we still have white flowers!

### PHONICS FOCUS:

Revising Set 1 sounds and adding Set 2 digraphs

We had a wonderful week inspiring awe and wonder with the children! This is something that we try to do on a daily basis but this week we had a big focus around imagination and letting our minds daydream to see what unique things each child thought of. Each child created a 'Wonder Book' where they drew what they imagined in response to a sound clip each day.



The children took time to focus on flowers during meditation this week. They explored the petals, stems and leaves with their eyes and took notice of their different textures. This was a lovely display of mindfulness that we then challenged the children to apply when exploring outside. Can you notice anything small and meaningful in your local park or garden at home?

OUR MATHS  
FOCUS:  
SHARING  
&  
GROUPING



All the children are budding scientists in Start class! The children explored the reaction of bicarbonate soda mixing with vinegar and were amazed when they saw it 'explode'! They used food colouring to make different bubbly mixtures and showed great fine motor skills using the pipettes for this activity.



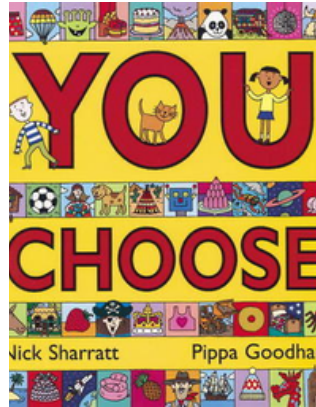
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## Pre-School- Lea Class

Welcome back to the last half term of this academic year. We begin our last topic of 'Change is different but it is good.' In the last seven weeks, children will talk about seasonal changes, summer family outings such as seaside trips, camping etc. Lastly, some children will explore the concept of transition and changes as they've become more grown up and begin their school journey into Reception.



This week's focus book of 'You choose' by Pippa Goodhart, was a valuable discussion prompt for children to discuss their favourite things.

The children answered various question personal to them such as, If you could go anywhere, where would you go? Who would you like as a friend? What would you eat? What would you do for fun?

Language we drew attention to as we read:

What does it mean, wheels or wings?  
What does perhaps mean?  
What does it mean to have fun?  
What happens when you snooze?

Focus vocabulary covered was:

family, friends, home, choose, travel, hungry, pet, job



Linked to the focus story, the children chose what learning activities we had as learning enhancement areas. Some of the favourites were dressing up clothes, digging in the mud finding stones, painting, puzzles, construction games and dancing to disney songs.



In Maths, children reviewed the composition of numeral 3 and 4. What does 3 and 4 mean? How many ways could this be shown using fingers? Can you clap or stomp 4 times? Can the children find 3 objects?



# School News and Updates

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Wednesday 19th June** – New Reception (September 2024) Parents' Information Evening, 5–6pm

**Thursday 20th June** – Clean Air Day

**Tuesday 2nd July** – New Reception (September 2024) Teddy Bear's Picnic – 2pm. More information to be posted soon!

**Wednesday 3rd July** – Transition Day / Stay and Play New Reception and Pre-School pupils and parents (9–10.30am)

**Friday 5th July – Reception (Stort Class) Sports Day** – this event will commence at 2.45pm – 3.15pm and will be held at Avanti Brook / Friday 12th July 2.45pm – Reserve Date for Sports Day

**Monday 8th July – Reception (Stort class) Trip to Discover Stratford** (please kindly be reminded to return your consent forms and complete payments via Arbor).

**Tuesday 9th July– Pre-School (Lea Class) Sports Day** 1.45–2.45pm. All family members welcome to come and watch.

**Wednesday 17 July** – Stay and Play New Reception and Pre-School pupils and parents (1–2.30pm)

**Friday 19 July** – Term ends, 1.00pm for Reception (Stort Class) and Pre-School (Lea Class)

**Week commencing 2nd September** – staggered starts for Reception and Pre-School (tbc)





# School News and Updates

## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

**Sun Cream and Sun Hats** – now the sunshine has finally arrived, please could we kindly request that the children bring a named sun hat into school. Please ensure that your child arrives at school wearing all day sun cream.

**Large sheets** – We still welcome large pieces of fabric or bedsheets. We would love to continue doing some large-scale painting with the children. and then using the fabric as a den building material.

**Mud kitchen**– We are developing our mud kitchen area now that the weather has been warming up (ever so slowly!). If you do have any old pots/pans, a pestle & mortar, or metal tea pots, we will happily give them a new home!

**Updates to our Late Play Provision** – Our catering suppliers Govinda's is now providing the meals at our Late Play sessions. We request that your sessions are pre-booked, 2 weeks in advance and we have a 2 week notice period for any changes to your child's Late Play sessions with notification made via email: a

**Gold Star Award badges** – please could we kindly remind you to return the Gold Star badge once your child has held the badge for one week. Thank you for your support.

**Reception (Stort Class) trip to Discover Children's Story Centre** – please be reminded to return consent forms and kindly complete your payment via Arbor – thank you.



# School News and Updates

## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

### Parent Volunteers

If you would be interested in volunteering within school, please kindly contact the school office for further details. We will be looking for parents readers in September along with parents to accompany school trips. Volunteers will need an enhanced DBS certificate that will be organised by our central HR Team.

### End of term – finish time change

Please be advised on the final day of term, Friday 19th July our finish time will be 1.00pm for **both** Reception (Stort Class) and Pre-School (Lea Class) this is a change to our publish times.

### My Nametags

Did you know that the average child permanently loses nine pieces of school kit per year? To this end Avanti Brook is now a member of MyNametags fundraising scheme.

“For every order of personalised labels for children’s clothing and equipment, My Nametags will contribute 24% to your child's school. Please help us to return lost clothing and support your school’s fundraising efforts by placing an order for labels with My Nametags. Go to the school website and click on the My Nametags link. Every order placed when clicking on this link will be counted in the fundraising total for our school.”

Please find link attached below and at the check out stage, please enter the school ID.

Website: [www.MyNametags.com](http://www.MyNametags.com)

Our school ID is: 109680

We do kindly ask that all items of clothing along with shoes, water bottles and any other items brought into school are clearly labelled. We thank you for your support.



# School News and Updates

**Golden Certificate Award:**  
**Pre-School: Alice C**  
**Reception: Ruben**

**Previous certificate winners in  
Reception:**

## Golden Expectations

1. Be kind: think of others and help them
2. Be safe: look after yourself and others
3. Be respectful: listen carefully and act politely
4. Be honest: think before you speak or act
5. Be courageous: keep on trying your best
6. Be grateful: say 'thank you'



## Reception Home Learning Ideas

- Practise writing name
- Set 1 & 2 digraph sounds: sh, ch, th, qu, ng, nk, ay
- Reading- Resource found here
- Number formation: Topmarks Number of the Day
- Handwriting 'around' letters: c a o d g q



# At a stop? Turn it off!

**Protect children** from air pollution **by turning off your engine** when at a stop.

Discover more simple steps to protect yourself and your loved ones at [hertfordshire.gov.uk/cleanerair](https://hertfordshire.gov.uk/cleanerair)

**Let's clear the air**

 Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

 Hertfordshire

# Could you walk with us?

Take part in **Walk to School Week** this May. The five day challenge is a great way to start the day, **helping kids to be more active** and **improving air quality** around schools.

**Let's clear the air**

 Department  
for Environment  
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 Hertfordshire

# Swap seatbelts for a stroll

**Did you know...**

**May is National Walking Month.** Could you try walking the kids to school? **It's an easy way to get active and reduce air pollution in your local area.** That's better for us and the air we breathe.

**Let's clear the air**

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# Getting healthier is a walk in the park!

**Did you know...**

**May is National Walking Month.** Walking just 20 minutes a day can help you live longer. **Swapping short journeys** can help you **be more active** and **reduce your exposure to air pollution.**

**Let's clear the air**

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## AVANTI SUMMER FESTIVAL!

Dear Avanti Families,

**AVANTI FEST – Saturday 13 July 11.00am–2.00pm**

Music, games, crafts, snacks and stalls for a fantastic family day out with appearance from our cheerleaders, school choir and the local fire crew in their shiny red fire engine!

Advance Tickets will be on sale from 14 June through our PTA events page. You may also purchase tickets on the day at the gate, if you want to avoid the queue please book in advance!

Only children 2years+ require a ticket. Adults are FREE but must attend. Tickets are £5.00.

We really need some more parents to volunteer on the day. We are looking for support with setting up, support during the event and support packing away. If you can support for any amount of time, we will be very grateful. Unfortunately, if we do not have enough volunteers we will have to cancel the event. Please email [avantimeadowspta@gmail.com](mailto:avantimeadowspta@gmail.com) if you can support with any of the above.

Thank you for your continued support.

Avanti Meadows PTA  
[avantimeadowspta@gmail.com](mailto:avantimeadowspta@gmail.com)

