



AVANTI COURT
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Excellence Virtue Devotion



AVANTI COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Families,
Thank you to Year 4 for their fantastic Lord Chaitanya production! They have worked so hard over the last few weeks-I am sure those of you who saw the play were equally as impressed!
I would like to welcome two fantastic new members of staff: Ms Banerjee who is our new Nursery Nurse and Ms Zsiros who is a Teaching Assistant in Key Stage 1. I am sure you would like to welcome them to the Avanti family!
Thank you so much for your patience and understanding during the adverse weather conditions. Avanti proved that we are stronger than the Beast from the East on the 1st March!

Mrs Walters

LORD CHAITANYA

'Be more humble than a blade of grass; more tolerant than a tree. Offer respect to all and expect none in return. In doing so chant the Holy names of God always'



ATTENDANCE FROM SEPTEMBER 2017 TO THE 9th MARCH 2018

Class	Percentage Attendance From September-March 2018
Nursery am	93% Below National
Nursery pm	88% Below National
Reception Blanco	94% Below National
Reception Balta	95% Below National
Reception Shukla	95% Below National
Reception White	95% Below National
Yr1 Blue	95% Below National
Yr1 Neela	96% At National
Yr1 Nebieski	95% Below National
Yr2 Harit	96%
Yr2 Green	97%
Yr2 Verdi	96%
Yr2 Zielony	95% Below National
Yr3 Dhumalah	95% Below National
Yr3 Purple	97% Above National
Yr3 Purpura	98% Above National
Yr3 Fioletowy	97% Above National
Yr4 Bronze	96% At National
Yr4 Kamsya	96% At National
Yr4 Bronce	96% At National
Yr4 Braz	94% Below National
Yr5 Silver	97% Above National
Yr5 Rajat	97% Above National
Yr5 Plata	96% At National
Yr5 Screbo	95% Below National
Yr6 Gold	95% Below National

BIKES-OUR COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPING A HEALTHY SCHOOL

This half term, Reception children have been enjoying the benefits of cycling! Children were excited to take part in a series of workshops with 'Bikeability'; a cycling proficiency course that works in partnership with Transport For London. Avanti Court is a proud 'Eco School', and it has been a delight to see our young children develop core strength and self-awareness through safe and fun balance-bike training. We know that those skills will help them on the way to being confident and responsible cyclists of the future. Well done, Reception Children!

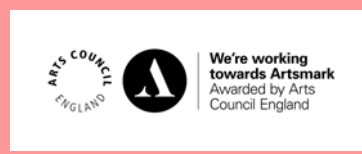


REDUCING SCREEN TIME IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CITY UNIVERSITY-HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Parents have been busy over the last few weeks recording how much screen time they are subjected to in hope that they can devise their own strategies to reduce screen time usage! I sat in on part of a session and could quite easily see how easy it is to have access to social media on devices such as tablets, laptops and phones!

So far, parents have taken part in a range of activities that they could replicate at home to help reduce not only their own screen time usage but also time used by their children on screen. Parents have worn pedometers, taken part in gardening activities and even worked on their hoopla hooping with the help of KS2 pupils!

NEWSLETTER February/March 2018



READING AT AVANTI



RANVEER-YEAR 6 WRITES ABOUT A VISITING LIBRARIAN

A local librarian visited Gold class recently to read aloud to us. She shared a book about a boy who absolutely loves football and wants to play for a top team-called Kick.

The second book she shared was called Frozen, which is about a group of children who are able to travel back in time-imagine that!

It was great to hear the books being read aloud! The visit certainly has inspired me to become a member of the local library.

PARENT VOICE

Dear Mrs Walters,
A recent conversation with a friend made me aware of a certain aspect of teaching present in your school. As I have a degree in linguistics I was asked to assess a friend's son in his speech production and his linguistic performance.

During my research of a bilingual child's development stages I thought of our school. The evidence shows that usually by the age of 4, children can separate the two different languages but they might still blend or mix them even within a sentence and it's usually at the age of 7, that they ultimately learn to separate both languages correctly.

We hardly ever think about the great job that especially your EYFS, KS1 teachers are doing. Achieving great results in KS1 phonics screening where the majority of the kids don't speak English as their first language and who are (at least) bilingual is truly amazing!!

Bilingualism is very beneficial for the brain but it also has its challenges. Thank you so much for all the effort that you and all the teachers in Avanti Court put into teaching such a diversity of children!

Kind regards,
S. Lohithakshan

PUNCTUALITY

Please ensure your children arrive at school on time. Currently, we have to have two members of staff present to escort late children to their classes after 8:30am. We would prefer that these two members of staff were used to support learning.

Did you know that from 8:20-8:45am in Year 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 children use this time to respond to teacher marking? Research has proved that children who respond to teacher feedback make more progress than their peers.

As a school we wanted to achieve 97% attendance for the Spring term. We managed so far to reach 96.1%.

We are pleased to have reached the National Average, however we are still below our own target of 97%.

AND THE WINNING HOUSE IS....

House Ambassadors collected house points from across the school and are pleased to announce that AIR won for Spring 1. They would like all pupils who belong to air to be able to come into school wearing pyjamas as a reward. We are currently waiting for the cold weather to subside a little before we allow children to do this. Well-done Air!

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

PARENT VIEW

Remember to add your views!
<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>



The next Headteacher's Forum will be on: Thursday 29th March at 8:45am. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to share your views and to hear the positive developments the school is making to achieve the school priorities for 2017-2018. Please do come!

Pupils will be present to talk about Yoga, the Travel Plan and their experiences of lunch time.

PARENT FORUM- YOU ASKED AND SO WE...

If we could have a more robust way of children ordering their lunch, **so we will shortly** be installing the Biostore system so that children can select their chosen meal choice.

If children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 could have attendance letters placed in an envelope. **We have listened** and from this half term attendance letters will be placed in an envelope. **If pupils** in Year 1 could go straight into class in the morning from 8:20am. Pupils in Year 1 from 8:20-8:30am **are now able** to walk through the gym and go straight into class.

If the school could name and shame drivers who park illegally outside the school gates. **We will try** to publish the car number plates of drivers who do not park safely on Parentmail, however 'our' eyes are on pupils to ensure they are with an adult when leaving the school site.

If the school could work with parents to reduce screen time -**as a result** we are in partnership with City University and this project is in full swing at Avanti Court.

HOW WILL AVANTI SUPPORT OTHER SCHOOLS THIS TERM?

Mrs Sanghera has been selected to support other schools in the London Borough of Redbridge this summer as part of the maths moderation process. Ms Sahota has also been selected to support school assessment procedures in Reception classes across the borough and Mrs Sivadasan has been selected to be a Lead English Moderator for the borough! This just goes to show how Avanti staff are supporting other schools and teachers across the borough. Well-done Avanti!

CLUBS AT AVANTI...



Dance Club!



Computing Club!



Parent Clubs!



Choir Club

PARENT SURVEY OUTCOMES 2018

We are delighted to attach links to both the Parent and Pupil Survey 2018. As you can see the results are very strong. Please view the **action plans** in place for both surveys (see website) so that you know as a school what we are doing to make the school even better!

Parent Survey Results: <http://avanti.org.uk/avanticourt/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2018/02/Parent-Survey-Presentation-Final-January-23rd-2018-1.pdf>

PARENT SURVEY 2017/2018 RESULTS FOR STRONGLY AGREED AND AGREED

	Strongly Agree and Agree total percentages
My child is happy at school	98%
My child feels safe at school	96%
My child is making good progress at school	96%
I know what my child needs to work on to make good progress	95%
My child is well looked after at Avanti	93%
My child is taught well at Avanti	95%
The school is well managed by the Leadership Team and Governors	87%
The school deals effectively with incidents of racism and bullying	89%
I feel proud of Avanti and would recommend it to other families	96%

PUPIL LEADERS...

The school promotes a number of opportunities for all pupils to develop leadership qualities. Class Assemblies give pupils the opportunity to:

- Showcase their learning to the school community
- It enables pupils to work towards a common goal
- It helps develop school spirit; feelings of affiliation and unity among pupils and staff
- It enables students to share stories and performances, as well as their abilities/talents to an audience
- It can contribute to student motivation through recognition of achievement
- It provides pupils to be involved with a mini productions through the making of props, power-points, sound and the writing of scripts

LEARNING AT AVANTI...



Learning to ride!



Chinese New Year



Pedestrian Safety!



Presenting on the radio!

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Pupil Survey Results: <http://avanti.org.uk/avanticourt/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2018/02/Whole-School-Pupil-Survey-Presentation-Final-2018.pdf>

Pupil Survey 2017/2018 Results for Strongly Agree and Agreed

Questions	Strongly agree/Agree
I feel safe at school	95%
I learn exciting and new things in lessons	96%
My teacher helps me to make my work better	98%
I enjoy school	96%
My class behaves well	89%
There is someone I can speak to if I am worried at school	98%
My work at school is challenging	90%
I behave well at school	96%
Children behave well in the playground	94%

COMPUTING BUZZ!

Parents often ask about computing in the EYFS and in Year 1. I am pleased to inform you that pupils in Year 1 have been programming devices and learning all about algorithms. They have managed to debug a device and make predications based on their algorithms.

I was really impressed with Abhay (Blanco) who informed visiting parents all about B Bots. He was able to tell them how he can program a series of instructions for the device to follow in order to get to a landmark within the classroom!

Can we say a huge thank you to Laksman in Year 6, who visited Mrs Walters in the Autumn Term to present his proposal for a Computing Club at Avanti! He was able to eloquently discuss health and safety and how the club will benefit learners. As a result of Laksman's proposal a Computing Club called: PrepareRobo now takes place weekly at Avanti!

AVANTI COURT AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL-OUR COMMITMENT TO THE ARTS

Singers from Avanti Court will be singing at the Redbridge Choral Festival on the 13th March 2018. They will be joining other schools to sing an array of challenging music in what will be a fantastic experience. Ms Vincent is leading the choir and has been busy rehearsing with the pupils. Experiences such as singing or performing at such an esteemed venue helps to develop children's confidence and raises aspirations and gives pupils the opportunity to learn pieces of music by British composers. Here is what some members of the school choir said:

'What makes choir so amazing is that we all have different voices, but when we come together we make one big voice and it sounds really beautiful' Caiden, Year 5

'My favourite hymn is Jerusalem because it makes me feel connected to England's history' Aryan, Year 6

'Choir is special because it gives us such good opportunities including singing at a big and very famous venue!' Nandita, Year 6

'When you sing you can forget about your worries and just be in the moment' Kiran, Year 5



SAFEGUARDING-NSPCC

It's important to be aware of technology, toys and internet safety. That's because over the next few years, millions of objects will be connected to the internet. You might have already bought an internet-connected gift for your child, so it's important to be aware of the potential risks.

What is the Internet of Things?

The Internet of Things, sometimes called the IoT, refers to everyday objects that connect to the internet. Internet of Things devices can be activated using voice commands and can be controlled remotely using a smartphone app. Lots of these devices are also Bluetooth-enabled, meaning they are able to connect to nearby devices, without having to connect to the internet.

Internet of Things examples include:

- smart speakers, such as Google Home and Amazon Echo
- wearables, such as Fitbit and Apple Watch
- smart meters measuring household energy consumption.

What is the Internet of Toys (IoT)?

Along with the devices above, many toys now connect to the internet. This is sometimes referred to as the Internet of Toys.

These products include:

- toys with voice and/or image recognition, such as Hello Barbie™ and Furby Connect
- app-enabled robots, drones and other mechanical toys, such as Dash and Dot.

TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR FAMILY SAFE WHEN USING INTERNET CONNECTED DEVICES BY THE NSPCC

1. **Read the manual carefully-** Check the guidance provided by manufacturers. Product information often comes with new devices or can be found online. This will give you some idea as to how the device collects and shares data.
2. **Be app aware-** Many Internet of Things devices require downloading an app. You should check the privacy settings and permissions of any apps you download, as well as the product itself.
3. **Consider buying brands-** Buying a recognised brand is likely to offer greater security than cheaper options, although there have been data breaches with some of the most popular IoT toys. Reading reviews online will help you understand the digital safety of a product.
4. **Use parental controls-** Many products have parental controls or child-safe modes as standard. These limit search abilities and access to paid-for services. We recommend using these for children under 13. If you're giving a device as a gift, make sure you enable these features.
5. **Check your connections are safe-** It's important that your internet router is secure. Most internet service providers have security features, so you may want to consider switching these to safe mode. If the device has Bluetooth, set it to 'undiscoverable', otherwise you may unintentionally share data or allow hackers to take control of the device.
6. **Be password protected-** Make sure all passwords are changed from their defaults. The use of strong, unique passwords is essential to protecting you and your family online.
7. **Talk to your child about online safety-** With any internet-connected device, whether a smartphone or toy, it's important to speak to your child about staying safe online.
8. **Ask the NSPCC for advice-** If you have any worries or concerns, call the NSPCC helpline on [080 88005002](tel:08008800500)

CHARANGA MUSIC LANDS AVANTI!

Charanga Music is a digital resource that supports the New National Curriculum for music. Our budding musicians really enjoy using this exciting new technology to listen and appraise, sing, perform, improvise and compose in a wide range of styles and genres.

This term, EYFS have been exploring a range of action songs and rhymes in different styles. As part of their topic 'Down on the Farm', Nursery children learnt the song 'Old Macdonald', and Reception children will be creating music all about 'Growing!'

KS1 will be developing their knowledge of some key musical concepts: pulse, rhythm and pitch. Children will be using their voices and a range of musical instruments to perform a song in the Bosa Nova Latin style!



KS2 will be delving into the world of gospel music! Children will be using musical notation to represent rhythm and pitch, as well as creating their own musical ideas. Children will further develop their performance skills through singing and playing tuned and percussion instruments in a song that celebrates friendship: 'Lean on Me'.

ROAD SAFETY!

A fantastic interactive presentation by a Redbridge Road Safety Officer took place for children at Avanti recently. Children were taught about the importance of road safety using magic! We were fortunate to have a number of parents present and I am sure they would agree that the children were extremely engaged by the Road Safety Officer who delivered some very important messages.



ARTS MARK AWARD

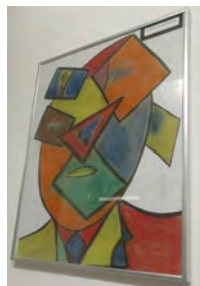
We are delighted to inform you that the school recently submitted an application for the Arts Mark Award (February 2018). Through the process of completing the initial application, the school was excited by the prospect of undertaking a detailed audit of its arts provision. It became a celebration of the school's commitment to building on the opportunities at Avanti Court to ensure that all students have access to an exciting and diverse arts curriculum and that staff are trained to deliver an exciting arts curriculum.

The impact of the Artsmark process has certainly heightened our awareness and of the school's capacity for change and has enabled us to look at what needs to be done next to ensure our provision is one of excellence.

Over the years at Avanti, cross-curricular links have increased and our aim is for the arts to be fully embedded across all subject areas. The application process has certainly contributed towards staff engagement with the arts in recognising the value they have in developing students' pride and self-esteem.

We look forward to showcasing the arts at Avanti on: 28th March in the main hall.

It is wonderful to be able to inform you that our application for Artsmark has been accepted and we are now on our journey to becoming a recognized Artsmark school. Well done to Ms Vincent and Ms Janab who are leading the school's application for Artsmark.



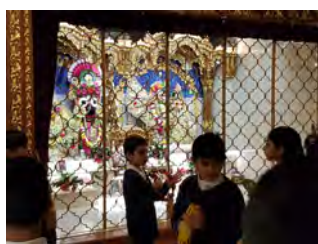
ART AT AVANTI...



YEAR 5 VISIT SOHO TEMPLE

Pupils in Year 5 visited the Soho Temple in London recently. Shormi said: 'The trip was amazing because I learnt all about the importance of the River Ganges and why it is such a sacred place. Visiting different places of worship is really

important for children because it helps us to learn about different cultures, we can then see what is the same or different to our own. At the Temple I demonstrated the value of respect and empathy towards others.'



HOLOCAUST

Avanti Court would like to thank Ms Khant and pupils who attended the Holocaust Memorial Day at Valentines Park on the 26th January 2018. In memory of the Holocaust, hundreds of Redbridge residents including children from Avanti Court gathered to reflect on the power of words to foster unity.



Jeevan in Year 5 said: 'It is so important that we learn from the past so we can make our world better. We must learn about the past how many people sacrificed their lives for us today. At the service I demonstrated the values of respect and empathy.'



AVANTI PUPILS BROADCAST OVER THE AIRWAYS!

Four children from Year 6 had the opportunity to go live on Nusound Radio. The children were able to succinctly talk about some of the topics from our philosophy Religion and Ethics curriculum. They were also able to talk about other aspects of the school such as meditation, yoga and Sanskrit and how these are beneficial to them.

Children answered questions confidently and enthusiastically. The radio station received a few calls whilst the children were live on air and the public were very complimentary. I received a message from a listener: 'The four children were amazing, so confident, articulate, self-assured, well-grounded and spiritual. They were a credit to their parents and also you and your school. It must be so rewarding teaching these kids.' We are very proud of our super stars! By Mrs Makwana

LORD CHAITANYA WEEK

Children and staff embarked on a beautiful adventure to find out more about the incarnation of Krishna, who they call Gauranga!

Lord Chaitanya appeared 500 years ago in West Bengal. He was born to a devotional family led by his father Jaganatha Mishra and his good mother, Sachi Devi. His birth was no ordinary occurrence as it was prophesied that on a full Linear eclipse he will appear. He is the divine combination of Krishna and Radharani. Lord Chaitanya appeared due to the sincere pleas of his devotees and to remove wrong doings. He made the process of attaining Love of God simple by requesting that all chant the maha mantra irrespective of caste, colour or creed. This golden incarnation, who is also known as the Hidden avatar, came as a devotee of Himself to spread the love of God through the chanting of the holy names.

WE ASKED MS YIM WHAT IT MEANS TO HER TO BE PART OF OUR LORD CHAITANYA CELEBRATIONS...



Working in many year groups for the last six years I have learnt so many things about the life of Lord Chaitanya and each year my knowledge grows. It is so refreshing to learn about different religions and that fundamentally love and respect is the key.

This week I have read a special book with the children all about festivals so that they can make links to Holi and other festivals.



I always participate in Holi and love being part of the celebrations!

What this week has really proved to me, is that Avanti is a school where everyone is welcome and respected. I read the bible everyday and it tells me to worship the Lord with joyfulness and at Avanti this week has certainly been filled with joy.



PUPIL VOICE

Ambassadors met with Mr Terry on Monday 26th February 2018 armed with a range of questions and suggestions:

The results of the recent lunch pupil survey were shared and the ambassadors were informed that their peers would like a **themed lunch week** to celebrate other parts of the world.

Mitansh said: He would like to learn more about other cultures and countries as this creates harmony.

Ankan: said that he would love to explore foods from other countries and that tasting food from other places makes him feel excited.

Varnika: said that she would like to learn about other places in the world but is worried that we may have to change the menu often.

Mr Terry explained that perhaps it would be a good idea to have a themed week once every half term and that he would inform parents to give them as much notice as possible.

The ambassadors then looked at various countries and quickly decided that they wanted to taste foods from countries further afield rather than Italy and France. They decided on: Japan, Mexico and China. They then took a **vote** and it was decided that the first themed week would focus on foods from China-to be held shortly.



Mrs Walters shared an outcome from the lunch survey, as quite a high number of children wanted to be served sandwiches. The ambassadors said that they were worried that sandwiches could get boring and so they asked Mr Terry if he could create an exciting sandwich! Mr Terry said that he could create a sandwich rather like a Panini! Ambassadors asked if they could taste the sandwich first, before it is served to all the children. Mr Terry agreed and said that he would like them to taste his Panini style sandwich first and to give him feedback so that he can make it even better!



LORD CHAITANYA

