

**September 21, 2020** 

## A WEEK AT AVANTI HOUSE primary school

## Quote of the Week.

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." Leo Buscaglia

Thank You!

ensure we support each other, provide a helping hand and be aware of our difficulties but also the difficulties of those around us.

During these difficult times, it has become more important than ever to

Children across the school had the opportunity to dissect this quote to truly understand its meaning; they were able to talk about how they could help their friends and the staff. They shared how they could show compassion and most importantly how one would feel at that moment. We experimented by giving a smile to the person next to us and describing how it made us feel. We decided that a small act of kindness would go a long way!

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience as the school becomes used to its new norm. I know you can appreciate how difficult this can be. I am pleased to say that drop off and pick up is working well. The timings and entrances for specific year group bubbles is working well. Please remember that children must not be left unsupervised before 07:45am, it is parental responsibility to ensure your child/ren remains safe before school officially opens for children.

I want to also reassure you that once children enter the school building, they continue to operate in their year group bubbles, having said that, they remain in their classrooms adhering to social distancing, and mix within year group bubbles during break times, again adhering to social distancing. It is incredible to see the different games and activities that both children and staff have adopted.

I also want to thank you and our children for your patience and support while we work with our kitchen team to ensure they provide nutritious and delicious meals. It has been challengin as we work through the logistics, we have been taking feedback from our children and continuously amending our menu.



A warm welcome to all our reception parents, it has been lovely to see how quickly your children have settled into their new surroundings. Children are getting to know all the adults within the EYFS unit as well as each other, for some this can be very daunting, however our experienced staff have ensured that they feel safe and happy. We look forward to getting to know you better and forging positive and supportive relationships.

## What's in the diary?

<u>National Fitness Day:</u> Children across the school will celebrate National Fitness Day, on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The day will look slightly different than last year, due to ensuring children and staff continue to socially distance, however the day will be full of excitement and energy, ensuring children understand the positive effects fitness has on our bodies and mental well-being.

**<u>Recycling Week:</u>** Throughout the week children will learn about various aspects of recycling such as how organic and inorganic materials decompose. Children in Year 6 will be making their own compost, an ongoing project. Some year groups will be writing proposals to give compelling arguments to know the benefits of using recycled paper products.

<u>Year 5 Yom Kippur Assembly</u>: Children in Year 5 will be learning about the importance of Yom Kippur; they will gain an understanding of what the day entails for those celebrating including the history of Yom Kippur. Children in Year 5 will also learn about the similarities between Judaism and Hinduism. The assembly will be presented in front of Year 4 children, we will also record the assembly and provide details to Year 5 parents on how and when it can be viewed.

<u>Harvest</u>: We have started our collection for Harvest! We would really appreciate it if children can bring in a food item for our Harvest collection. Items such as tea, coffee, tins of food, biscuits, pulses, rice, cereal, pasta and sauces would be appreciated. We will continue to collect over the next few weeks before we take all donations to the food bank or our local care home.

## COVID-19 updates!

During these unprecedented times I would like to thank you for the many messages of support and appreciation. Each and every one of us are beginning to get used to our 'new norm,' together we can make this a positive experience.

From this week, as per DfE guidance, children will be able to bring their book bags/school bags to school; they will also be able to take their home school diary home. If you have any important information for the class teacher, it may be written in the diary.

There have been a few positive cases reported across Harrow Schools over the past week and understandably this news brings heightened anxiety. I would like to reassure you that at AHPS we are ensuring our health and safety measures continue to be a priority. The guidance continues to change, and it can soon become difficult to know what to do, for your ease I have devised an easy to follow flow chart. *See attached*.

