



AVANTI MEADOWS
PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Parent Newsletter 03.05.24

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This week's content



I hope you saw the report about our Ofsted outcome in the Bishop's Stortford Independent this week - if not, it is linked below.

As Mrs Penney is settling really well into Avanti Meadows, you may notice that I will be splitting my time between Avanti Brook and Avanti Meadows moving forward.

My Executive Principal role is one that is more strategic, looking at the development and growth of both primary schools within the Avanti trust. I will still be available, but perhaps a less visible role in school than you have been used to from me!

I tend to be in school every Monday morning, Tuesday and Friday afternoon if you would like to see me; Mrs Penney is here every day and will oversee all operational (day to day) school business.

Don't forget it's a long weekend and so enjoy Bank Holiday Monday - see you back on Tuesday.

Sally Allan

Executive Principal

Avanti Brook & Avanti Meadows Primary Schools

Messages from our Head of School, Mrs Penney

It has been another wonderful week of learning at Avanti Meadows. I have been impressed with the resilience and attitudes of the children, as I do my daily visits around the school.

I have also been spending many lunch times in the hall. The children are working really hard on walking calmly and having good manners at mealtimes. Thank you parents, if you are reinforcing positive mealtimes and manners at home - we really appreciate your continued support with this as it is such an important skill for life.

It is lovely chatting with you all on the gate in the mornings, so please do come and say hello, if we still haven't met.

Jennifer Penney

Head of School

Avanti Meadows Primary School

Weekly updates

Avanti Meadows: First Ofsted rating for Bishop's Stortford primary school at St Michael's Hurst is 'good with outstanding features'

Please see attached:

[*Bishop's Stortford Independent - published 30 April 2024*](#)

May – National Walking Month

Please see posters attached from HCC.

Yr3 (Maple Class) & Yr4 (Birch Class) Trip to Saffron Walden Museum

On Wednesday, Yrs3 & 4 had a wonderful day at Saffron Walden Museum.

Yr3 spent the day learning all about how the Romans invaded Britain and what changes they made to the way of living, fighting, culture, religion, and politics. The children were lucky to handle real fragments of Roman pottery, tiles, and mosaics. The final part to their morning, the children were able to make their own clay pots which also included a part of a real Roman pot! They looked amazing!

After lunch, the children got to explore Saffron Walden Museum and had a trail to find key artefacts from different time periods. They also had a fascinating section about the Romans and the children learnt lots of interesting new facts and information. The children also had a chance to dress up as a Roman soldier, trying on a helmet and using a sword and shield. We also had Aria as our very own Roman commander.

Yr4 were lucky enough to further explore Ancient Egypt enhancing their learning of history . We started the day exploring the museum, looking for different artefacts relating to our topic. In our afternoon session, we got to hold Ancient Egyptian artefacts more than three thousand years old which blew our minds!

We then got to learn more about mummification by mummifying our very own Pharaoh Elohore I and then we got to start the process on our own tomatoes. We now have 7 tomatoes in our classroom that we hope in time will be our very own mummified mascots in class!

Well done to all the children who represented our school so beautifully, showing our Avanti Values, leading one member of staff to comment on how amazingly well behaved they were!

We hope you had a wonderful day!

Miss Vass and Mrs Maguire

WELL DONE to Isla S - Yr1

We would like to say a huge WELL DONE to Isla S in Year 1, Hazel class for winning the recent 'Sophie Says' Easter competition. Isla spent time during the Easter holidays coming up with her own book idea and it was so amazing that she won! Not only has Isla won books for herself but she has also won three fabulous books for the school!

Thank you Isla! We are all very proud of you.

Miss Field



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

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



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



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

Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Hertfordshire



PE Days at Avanti Meadows



Reception: Elm Class - Tuesday & Wednesday & Friday (Field Friday)

Year 1: Hazel Class - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 1/2: Chestnut - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 2: Cedar Class - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 3: Maple Class - Tuesday (Swimming) & Thursday

Year 4: Birch Class - Thursday & Friday

Year 5: Willow Class - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 6: Oak Class - Monday & Wednesday

Dates for your diary: [School Calendar](#)



May 2024

- *Tuesday 7 May Fri - 10th May: KS1 (Hazel, Chestnut & Cedar classes) SATs*
- *Tuesday 7 May: EYFS (Blossom and Elm classes) and KS1 (Hazel, Chestnut and Cedar classes) Govinda's Parent Information Session at 2.30pm*
- *Thursday 9 May: KS1 (Hazel, Cedar and Chestnut classes) visit to Mountfitchet Castle*
 - *Thursday 9 May: Yr3 (Maple class) Parent Consultations - In Person*
 - *Friday 10 May: Yr3 (Maple class) Parent Consultations - On Line*
 - *Monday 13 May - Thursday 16 May: Yr6 (Oak class) SATs*
 - *Monday 20 May - Friday 24 May: PTA Sponsored Read*
 - *Monday 20 May - Friday 24 May: Walk to School Week*

- *Thursday 23 May: Yr6 (Oak class), Crucial Crew Trip to St Barnabus Centre*
 - *Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May: Half term*
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June 2024

- *Monday 3 June: INSET DAY (5): - school closed to pupils*
 - *Friday 7 June: Pupil Class Photos*
 - *Monday 24 June - Friday 28 June 2024: Year 6 Retreat, The Vedanta*
 - *Tuesday 25 June - Yr2 (Cedar class) and Yr5 (Willow class) Music Festival at South Mill Arts*
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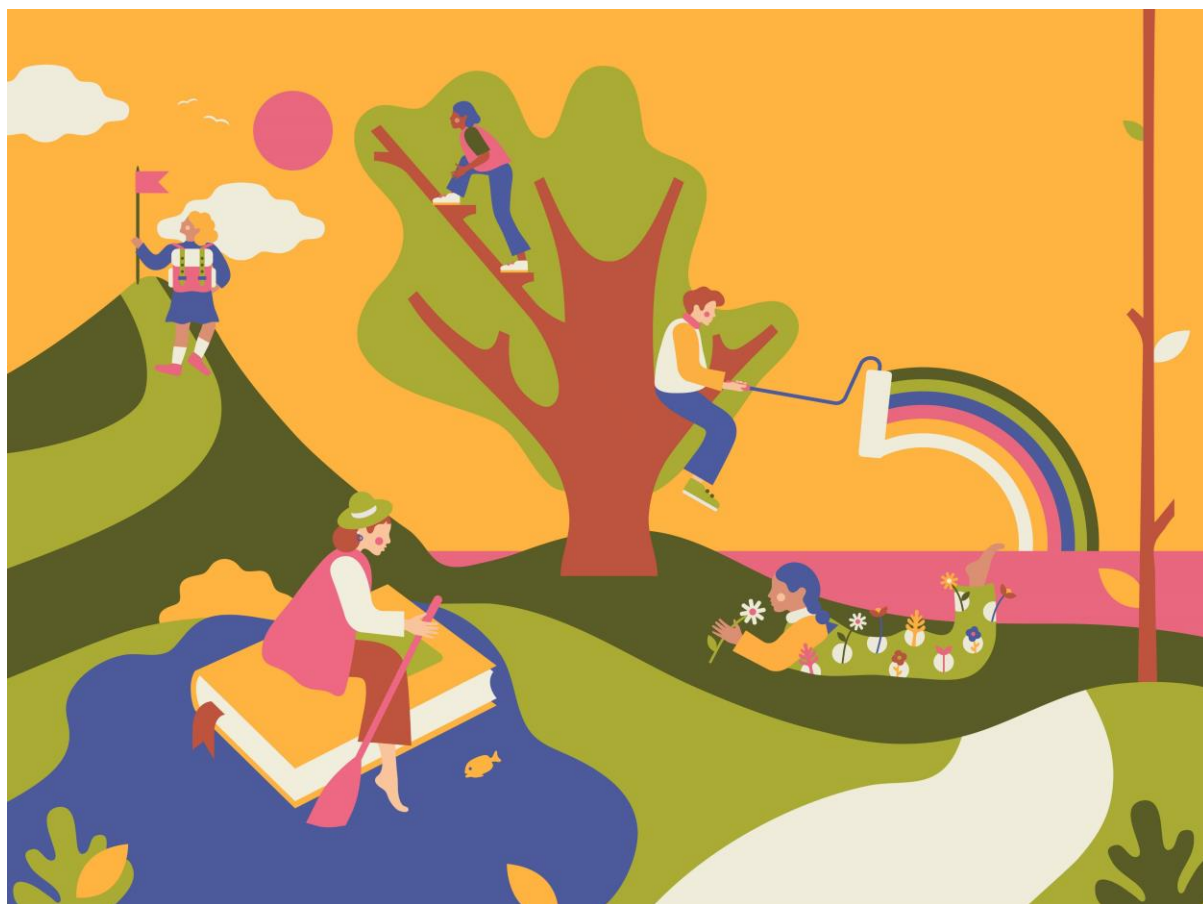
July 2024

- *Friday 5 July: Sports Day, Reception and KS1 AM and KS2 PM*
 - *Saturday 6 July: PTA Summer Event*
 - *Monday 8 July: Reception (Elm class) visit to Discover Children's Story Centre*
 - *Friday 12 July: Reserve date for Sports Day, Reception and KS1 AM and KS2 PM*
 - *Friday 19 July at 1.30pm, 3.00pm for Pre-School: End of term*
-
-

September 2024

- *Monday 30 September to 4 October - Year 5 (Willow class) PGL Trip*
-

PTA events and reminders



Dear Avanti Families,

As you may know, the school is opening a new library.

To help fill the shelves with some wonderful new books to fuel our children's imaginations we have partnered with Usborne books to host a fundraiser specifically for these new books!

The challenges will start the week commencing Monday 20th May - Friday 26th May. Reception (Elm class), Yr1 (Hazel class) will take part in 'Ready Steady Listen' and Yrs2-6 will take part in 'Ready Steady Read'.

The aim is to seek sponsorship from family, friends whoever, for the time your child will spend reading during this week. It can be per minute or a one off amount for taking part in the challenge.

The week beforehand your child will come home with a sponsorship form and reading log to keep track of everything. This challenge is designed to accommodate children of all abilities and it doesn't just include books, they can read anything that has words!

I wonder how creative they can be! For our very early readers this can be anything from sounding out a few letters to just snuggling up for a bedtime story. Whatever suits your child.

We have set a target of £1000 this will then be topped up by 60% by Usborne books.

We would absolutely love all the support and encouragement you can give to help your child raise money for books that will be enjoyed for many years!

We will also be rewarding the class achieving the highest amount of time spent reading.

Further details will follow.

Thankyou for your continued support

Avanti Meadows PTA

avantimeadowspta@gmail.com

**Read for
your school**

Take part in our
Ready, Steady... Read!

from 20th May to 26th May

Get sponsored, get reading
and see what you
can achieve

In partnership with
USBORNE

**+ VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

We are looking for parents to
volunteer their time, knowledge,
creativity and supervision to the
PTA.

**WHY JOIN
THE PTA?**

- BE A ROLE MODEL FOR YOUR KIDS
- HAVE A VOICE IN CREATING A SAFE, CHALLENGING AND INSPIRING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT
- CONNECT WITH OTHER PARENTS
- STAY INFORMED
- FLEXIBILITY TO YOUR AVAILABILITY
- WE HAVE GREAT FUN PLANNING AND EXECUTING EXCITING EVENTS

EMAIL US
AVANTIMEADOWSPTA@GMAIL.COM

Reminders



Mobile phones proposal/consultation

Further to our recent email from Mike Ion, Education Director, Avanti Schools Trust, please kindly be reminded to complete the feedback form by Friday 10 May, 2024.

Mobile phones: use by pupils in AST schools

Mr Mike Ion

Parent Coffee Mornings

Our Parent Coffee Mornings will be taking place this term as follows:

Friday 17 May 8.30-9.30am

Friday 14 June 8.30-9.30am

Please do join us for these sessions. We are keen to work with you in terms of what information you feel, as a parent, would be most useful. Please can I ask you to email us avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk with suggestions for the focus of future coffee morning sessions.

Mrs Jennifer Penney

Sports Day - save the dates

Please be advised that the dates are set as below:

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-
- Friday 5th July: Sports Day, Reception and KS1 (am) and KS2 (pm)*
 - Friday 12th July: Reserve date for Sports Day, Reception and KS1 (am) and KS2 (pm)*
-
-

Extra Curricular - Summer Term

Please find the summer term timetable of extra curricular clubs attached.

Extra Curricular Club Information

New Collection Arrangements

A reminder, please, when driving into the school grounds, the 5mph speed limit must be adhered to at all times.

[New Collection Arrangements](#)

The Avanti Way

The Avanti Way is the route map for the Avanti family of schools. It sets out our purpose and vision, to make clear our highest expectations and commitment to inspiring spiritually compassionate changemakers. Please read more here: [The Avanti Way](#)

Lunch Bookings - ParentPay

*Please be reminded that lunches must be booked a minimum of 48 hours in advance. Our catering providers **are not** able to accommodate meals selected/requested on the day. When a meal has not been pre-booked your child/children will be offered a jacket potato only. Please see guidance for booking meals [ParentPay How to book a meal](#).*

To support the catering services, we would kindly ask that you inform your child about their meal selection as we often have children who are refusing to eat the meal chosen for them.

[Spring & Summer Menu 2024](#)

Parent donations - old school uniform

Please can we kindly request donations of school uniform items, PE Kit and socks. We wish to keep a stock of clothing in school. Please can you hand any donations into the school office. We also kindly ask that if your child is sent home in a change of clothes from our spares that these items are washed and returned to the school office.

Communication with school and Email

There are always times when you as parents are keen to contact the school for many different reasons. Email is the quickest way to share information - there are four members of staff who cover the office inbox, including me. Please do not email staff directly as they are in class all day, and it will delay a response to you. Please use avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk

We do receive a large number of emails every day, so if the message is not deemed as urgent e.g. safeguarding, then it can take up to 48 hours to respond.

You can call the office, of course, on 01279 598575, and Mrs Anna Restivo will be happy to help.

School Office

We are always happy to deal with any queries at reception but can we kindly request that any non urgent queries are made after 10.30am please. The office is extremely busy between 8.00 and 10.30am as we complete important daily safeguarding processes, attendance registers and lunch orders. We appreciate your consideration. Please be reminded that the school office will open at 8.20am each Monday.

School Website

We are working to update the Meadows website so that it can be a source of information for you as parents as well as other people in the community and prospective parents. We have added a calendar page, updated the Pre-School information and we will be overhauling the curriculum information as well as many other pages. If you have any suggestions that you feel would be useful, please do email them to me through the school office.

What's on.... / Club Information



Extra Curricular / Holiday Clubs

Saturday 18 May 2024: Bishop' Stortford College: Invite and Inspire

Please see attached information detailing an academic enrichment programme developed to spark intellectual curiosity and ignite a love for lifelong learning for Yr 5 and Yr6 pupils.

Wild Cats Girls' Football sessions - Birchwood High School on Wednesday evenings

Please see attached information about Girls Football sessions being held at Birchwood High School for girls aged between 5-11.

[*Wild Cats Girls' Football sessions*](#)

Avanti Meadows Internal Breakfast Club - Changes to booking system

Please be reminded that changes have been made to the booking system. Please ensure Breakfast Club bookings are made via Arbor with payments made through ParentPay.

Please be advised that if you arrive at breakfast club without a booking, you may be turned away and your child will not be able to attend.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Charlotte Hall.

HAVE FUN

ENGLAND FOOTBALL

BISHOP'S STORTFORD FC

LOL

WILD CATS

The perfect way for girls aged 5-11 to get involved with football

Birchwood High School
3G Pitch - CM23 5BD

Wednesdays 5 - 6pm

£3 per session
with Lead BSCFC Coach Hugo!

Scan to book

WILD CATS
GIRLS' FOOTBALL

BISHOP'S
STORTFORD
COLLEGE
ESTD 1848



Invite and Inspire

FREE workshops for Year 5 and Year 6 children.

Saturday 18 May 2024

9.00am — 12.00pm, Bishop's Stortford College

An academic enrichment programme developed to spark intellectual curiosity and ignite a love for lifelong learning.



May Workshops:

- Experimental Approaches to Acrylic Paints
- Comic Book Character Design
- Mathematical Puzzles and Challenges
- Music
- Young Scientists
- Creative Writing



Scan the QR code for more information and to book.

bishopsstortfordcollege.org/about-us/our-community/invite-and-inspire/



Medical and Welfare



Hertfordshire Family Centre Service

Want to know more about the Public Health School Nursing team in Hertfordshire? Check out platforms available in the poster attached.

ELSA - w/c 4th March

We will be running intervention sessions for children to provide additional Emotional and Literacy support assistance (ELSA). These sessions will commence after half term w/c 4th March. The sessions will be weekly, both group and 1:1. Please see attached for further information.

Mrs Maher

ELSA - Emotional Literacy Support Assistant

Parenting Sessions

Please be reminded that after half-term Hertfordshire Family Support Services will be running parenting classes at Avanti Brook Primary School. If you feel that you would like to attend, please register with Herts Family Support Services using this link:

[Register with Herts Family Support Services](#)

Here is a link to the Hertfordshire Family Centre website if you wish to have a look and see what other services they may have on offer:

[Hertfordshire Family Centre Service](#)

Attendance - Is my child too ill for school?

*Please see the NHS guidance **[NHS Is my child too ill for school?](#)***

Measles Information

Cases of measles are currently increasing in England. Children who missed the MMR jab as part of the childhood vaccination schedule can catch up at any time. Please contact your GP surgery for assistance.

Measles usually starts with cold like symptoms, runny nose, cough, conjunctivitis and a high fever may develop along with spots in the mouth. The distinctive rash of measles begins around day 3. A rash of flat red or brown blotches appear, beginning on the face, behind the ears and spreads across the body.

*Any child thought to have measles **should not be** sent into school. Please contact your GP surgery or NHS 111 to seek advice over the phone. Please click the attached for further advice:*

[Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Medical information / Immunisations

We would kindly request that the immunisations information for your child/children within Arbor is completed and kept up to date. This area can be completed from your Arbor parent accounts. If you have any issues accessing your accounts, please contact Miss Charlotte Hall.

Changes to contact details / family circumstances

Please be reminded that parent contact details, i.e. phone numbers, addresses, emails and collection arrangements need to be up-to-date and current within our school management information system, Arbor. If you have any changes/updates please ensure you either enter these into Arbor directly, or, you contact the school office to advise of any changes. Please also be reminded that any changes to family circumstances must be shared with the school, either the class teacher or directly with the school office.



Want to know more about the Public Health School Nursing team in Hertfordshire?

Check out our platforms:



<https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx#>
www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing



07480 635 050
Confidential text message service ran by the school nursing team for 11-19 year olds. Text in any health and wellbeing concerns



@hct_schoolnursing
@teenhealth.hct



@HCT_SchoolNurse



🔍 Hct SchoolNursing



www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire



www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire



School nursing duty number
0300 123 7572
9am – 5pm Monday to Friday
(excluding bank holidays)

Celebrations



Celebration Friday

Hazel (Year 1):

-
- *Autumn H-A - Writer of the Week*
 - *Charlie S - Learner of the Week*
-

Chestnut (Year 1/2)

-
- *Arthur DM BP - Learner of the Week*
-

Cedar (Year 2):

-
- *Kelvin R - Writer of the Week*
 - *Logan S - Learner of the Week*
-

Maple (Year 3):

- *Yasmin W - Writer of the Week*
 - *Aldan J - Learner of the Week*
-

Birch (Year 4):

- *Elohor O - Writer of the Week*
 - *Oliver A - Learner of the Week*
-

Willow (Year 5):

- *Liliana W - Writer of the Week*
 - *Linke G - Learner of the Week*
-

Oak (Year 6):

- *Linus L - Writer of the Week*
 - *Avni G - Learner of the Week*
-

Term Dates



Term Dates 2023-24

-
- *Summer Term 2024*
-

Half term: Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May

*Monday 3 June - INSET DAY (5) - **school closed to pupils***

Term Dates 2024-25

• **Autumn Term 2024**

*Friday 30th August - INSET DAY (1) - **School closed to pupils***

Monday 2 September - Friday 13 December at 1.30pm/3.00pm for Pre-School

Reception and Pre-School staggered start (dates tba)

Half Term: Monday 21 October - Friday 1 November 2024

*Monday 4 November - INSET DAY (2) - **School closed to pupils***

• **Spring Term 2025**

Monday 6 January 2025 - Friday 4 April 2025 at 1.30pm/3.00pm for Pre-School

*Friday 31 January 2025 - INSET DAY (3) - **School closed to pupils***

Half Term: Monday 17 - 21 February 2025

• **Summer Term 2025**

Tuesday 22 April 2025 - Friday 18 July 2025 at 1.30pm/3.00pm for Pre-School

Half Term: Monday 26 May 2025 - Friday 30th May 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025 - INSET DAY (4) - School closed to pupils

Monday 21 July 2025 - INSET DAY (5) - School closed to pupils

Job Vacancies



EYFS, & KS2 Class Teacher - Avanti Meadows Primary School

Contract Type: Permanent

Hours: Full Time

Salary/Grade: MPS1 to UPS1

For further information click here: [EYFS, & KS2 Class Teacher](#)

Closes: 5 May, 2024 at 11:59pm

EYFS Teacher - Avanti Meadows Primary School

Contract Type: Fixed term contract

Hours: Part Term

Salary/Grade: MPS1 to UPS1

For further information click here: [EYFS Teacher](#)

Closes: 5 May, 2024 at 11:59pm

Contact Us



AVANTI MEADOWS

Excellence · Virtue · Devotion

Mrs Sally Allan is Executive Principal for Avanti Brook & Avanti Meadows Primary Schools

Mrs Jennifer Penney is the Head of School

Mrs Alison McCulloch is Inclusion Lead for the Bishop Stortford Avanti Schools

Mrs Claire Maher is SENCO for Avanti Meadows and Avanti Brook Primary Schools

Mrs Palak Elavia is our Area Business Support Manager, Bishops Stortford Hub

Ms Sam Ansell is PA to the Executive Principal

Miss Charlotte Hall is our Senior Administrator and will answer queries about admissions

Mrs Anna Restivo is our School Receptionist

Mrs Cathy McLornan is our Welfare and Attendance Administrator

Mrs Angeline Taylor is the Administration Assistant for Pre-School enquires

Our contact email address is avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk

Avanti Meadows Primary School

Farnham Road

Bishops Stortford

CM23 1FQ

01279 598575

avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk

Visit us on the web at <https://avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows/>

More information about Avanti Schools Trust can be found here: <https://avanti.org.uk/>

Social Media Accounts: Avanti Meadows

Please do follow us on the following accounts:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AvantiMeadows

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/avantimeadows/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AvantiMeadows>