



# AVANTI MEADOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Parent Newsletter 21.06.24

1. Message from our Head of School, Mrs Penney

2. Weekly updates

3. PE days at Avanti Meadows

4. Dates for your diary
5. PTA events and reminders

6. Reminders
7. Celebrations

8. What's On... / Club Information

9. Medical and Welfare
10. Term dates 2023-24
11. Term dates 2024-25

12. Avanti Trust - Job openings

13. Contact us

# This week's content



## Message from our Head of School, Mrs Penney

Dear Avanti Meadows Families,

It was so lovely to meet and greet some of our new Reception children and their families this week at the Open Evening event. As usual, Celia and the team provided some outstanding food samples and we had talks from our Early Years Lead, (Sarah Samuels) and our Senco (Claire Maher). It is an emotional time for us all - very soon we will be saying goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, but we will be welcoming two new Reception classes in September 2024!

We hope our Year 6 pupils have a fabulous time on the residential trip next week; I know the children and staff are very excited. There are some great activities planned out across the week and I can't wait to hear all about it.

Lastly, some of you sent in messages for National 'Thank a Teacher' Day this week. Your kind words are very much appreciated. We do have such a fabulous, hard-working team of professionals here not just the teachers but the whole staff team, who work tirelessly to make the school a great place to be.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone - I hope the sun shines for you.

**Jennifer Penney** 

**Head of School** 

**Avanti Meadows Primary School** 

## Weekly updates

#### 1. Music Festival at South Mill Arts Centre, Yr2 (Cedar Class)

On Tuesday 25th June, our Year 2 children will be taking part in a Music Festival at South Mills Arts Centre. A letter regarding this was sent out before half term, please do check your emails for all information needed. Please can parents ensure children come to school in their school uniform on this day as opposed to the normal PE kit. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. **Thank you. Miss Field'** 

2. Thank a Teacher messages - THANK YOU

#### Thank a Teacher

Thank you to all the amazing teachers in pre-school for making the days so fun. We know I loves coming and really appreciates the passion you show for all his interests (especially space and the ocean!)

A big thank you to all the lovely teachers in Hazel class, you are all awesome!

Dear All who work closely with B. Thank you everything you do, you are all amazing. I couldn't send individual thank yous because there are so many of you. From not just the teachers who greet us coming in, to the lovely Mrs B at breakfast club, everyone in the office, Claire, Sally and Jen. All the 1.1 support staff and class teachers. Thank you all.

#### 3. Sports Day 5th July 2024

A Sports Day letter will have come home to you this week. Please note the timings so you know when to arrive. Your child has been assigned a colour this year, so please read the letter so you know what they need to wear. Thank you for your support - it should be a fun day for everyone.

#### 4. Uniform

We understand that this is not a great time of year to invest in new school shoes, etc. however please note that from September every child is expected to be in full uniform including proper black school shoes, logo jumper or cardigan, proper school trousers/skirt, etc. No hoodies can be worn unless it is a PE day. The standard of uniform has really slipped this year and we want to get back on track please purchase your items so they are ready for September. Remember that a tie must be worn once children are in Year 6. Please prepare your child for this before they come back after the summer holidays. We will be reminding children and giving you a call to discuss this in September, if there are any issues regarding uniform. Thank you for your support - we really want to be a smart and well presented school. On the subject of uniform, there are at least 50 navy jumpers/cardies in lost property! Please do take a look.

**Brigade Uniform Suppliers** - for delivery before the start of the new school term please ensure orders are placed by 26 July.

# 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



#### June 2024

- 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

#### July 2024

- Tuesday 2 July: New Reception Pupils (2024/2025), Teddy Bear's Picnic (2pm)
  - Friday 5 July: Sports Day, Reception and KS1 AM and KS2 PM
- Monday 8 July: Reception (Elm class) visit to Discover Children's Story Centre
- Tuesday 9 July: Pre-School (Blossom class) Sports Afternoon 1.45-2.45pm
  - Thursday 11 July: Stay and Play session for New Reception families

- Friday 12 July: Reserve date for Sports Day, Reception and KS1 AM and KS2 PM
  - Saturday 13 July: PTA Summer Event (date change)
  - Tuesday 16 July: Stay and Play session for New Reception families
- Tuesday 16 July Yr5 (Maple class) and Yr6 (Oak class) School Production Show 1 (Parents and Carers Invited) 2:00 3:00pm
- Tuesday 16 July Yr5 (Maple class) and Yr6 (Oak class) School Production Show 2 (Parents and Carers Invited) 18:00 19:00pm
- Thursday 18 July Yr6 (Oak class) Leavers' Assembly (Parents and Carers Invited) 2:00pm -3:00pm
  - Friday 19 July at 1.30pm: End of term (including Pre-School)

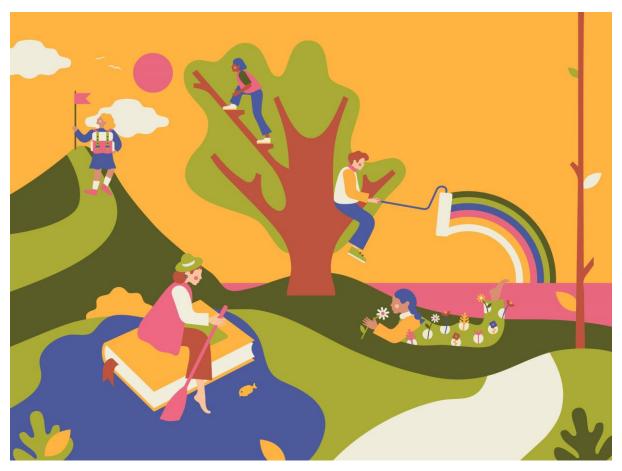
• (INSET DAY 30th August)

#### September 2024

FIRST DAY BACK FOR PUPILS - 2 September 2024 (staggered starts for Pre-School and Reception) full uniform for all pupils please unless a PE day.

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

## **PTA events and reminders**



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 are now on sale through our PTA events page. Please use the QR CODE or visit <u>www.pta-events.co.uk/avantimeadowspta</u> 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 with their child (even those in Y6). Tickets are £5.00.

We really need some more parents to volunteer on the day, at least 10 more. 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 or WhatsApp your Class Rep if you can support with any of the above.

Extra fundraising tools

We are affiliated with a couple of companies that will help towards our fundraising efforts.

#### Easyfundraising

A cashback shopping site that will pay us for you simply clicking to donate through selected retailers when online shopping this is of no cost to you, it is paid by the company you shop with based on the amount you spend! With a £5 sign up bonus and the chance to win £500 for the PTA we have made over £100 already! Check the details below on how to sign up.

#### **STIKINS**

A personalised label company will pay us 30% of whatever you spend ordering their fantastic stick on labels for school clothes and equiptment! Check the image below on where to visit and don't forget our code at the checkout!

Thank you for your continued support.

Avanti Meadows PTA

#### avantimeadowspta@gmail.com



# Child Ticket £5 Adults & UNDER 2's FREE Available online or on the day

**Games Tokens** 

10 for £5

# **20 for £10**

Available on the day only Scan QR code to book



www.pta-events.co.uk/avantimeadowspta

Onsite parking permitted



<section-header>



### Reminders





Home Start Hertfordshire - Pathway to Work - Volunteer with us!

Looking to return to work? Interested in a career working with children and families? Please find further information in the poster added below.

#### **Birthday Party Invitations**

We have had a number of children upset recently about birthday party invitations. It might seem a silly thing, but when you are a child, a party invitation can mean the world! We hope you all enjoy

wonderful birthday celebrations but we ask that you are mindful of how and when you give out invitations. Please do it in a way that is sensitive to those who have not been invited. Many thanks for your support.

#### **Reports**

Teachers are busy writing the end of year reports for all our pupils and these will come to you on the 12 July. They are being sent electronically this year and will be sent in batches, so please don't worry if yours doesn't arrive at the same time as someone else's. They should all be released by 6pm. I look forward to reading them before they come to you - there is so much much we can celebrate.

#### Punctuality

Please make sure your child is in school by 8.25am - we are seeing an increasing number of pupils arriving late, which really impacts on learning and how children settle in and get ready for the day ahead. Thank you everyone.

#### Water bottles

Please ensure your child comes to school with a filled water bottle. We encourage children to drink water throughout the day as it helps to keep children healthy and also helps them to concentrate. Please avoid any bottles that spray water mist - these are not suitable for school. Thank you for your support.

#### **School Uniform**

For the last half term before we break for the summer holidays, please help us by making an effort with correct school uniform. We are increasingly noticing that children are coming in wearing non uniform items, jewellery, colourful trainers, nail varnish etc.

If you need to replenish uniform, please do make sure you buy from our suppliers with the Avanti logo for specific items .

End of term change

Please be advised that the end of term finishes on Friday 19 July at 1.30pm this is for the entire school including Pre-School. Thank you for your understanding.

#### Art Competition

Please find attached information regarding an exciting creative opportunity!

CPRE Hertfordshire has launched its Children's Art Competition 2024 for all primary school children in Hertfordshire. The theme this year is: **Why I love the Hertfordshire Countryside.** 

The closing date for entries is Friday 12th July!

#### Art Competition

Enjoy getting creative!

Mrs Devey

Reception (Elm Class) - changes to daily drop off/collection arrangements

From Tuesday 4 June 2024 Elm class will enter the school through the doors into the main school hall. This is to ensure a smooth transition into Year 1. Please find further details attached:

Getting ready for Year 1

Presentation from Miss Hewitt

SPF sun cream and sun hats

Do remember to apply a strong, long lasting SPF product before school as the weather warms up and ensure the children have an appropriate sun hat with them in school.

#### 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

Extra Curricular - Summer Term 2

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

Extra Curricular Clubs Summer 2

#### 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: <u>The Avanti Way</u>

#### 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 <u>ParentPay How to book a meal</u>.

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 <u>avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk</u>

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.



#### Gain new skills and build on your experience by volunteering for Home-Start Hertfordshire

FREE TRAINING COURSE

Be a Volunteer Family Mentor and help build brighter futures for children – and we will support you on your Pathway to Work. It's a win win!

- Your free training will include:
- Safeguarding & confidentiality
- Communication & values
  Meeting the needs of children

We can also offer you a reference<sup>\*</sup> and support with writing your CV. We are an inclusive charity and value a diverse volunteering workforce.



H<sup>2</sup> ST ME RT

Contact us today for more information: For an informal chat about this opportunity please call us on 01438 367788 or email admin@home-startherts.org.uk



# What's on.... / Club Information

Extra Curricular / Holiday Clubs

#### 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

#### Woodland Rangers

Forest School experience based in Millennium Woods, near Bishop's Stortford. Please see attached flyer.

• www.woodlandrangers.co.uk Woodlandrangers.uk www.woodlandrangers.co.uk Woodland Ragets <u>Forest School experience based in</u> <u>Millennium Woods, near Bishop's Stortford, East Hertfordshire.</u> What do we offer?		
Mini Muntjacs	Woodland Squirrels	Exploring Rabbits
Stay and Play Baby sessions	Stay and Play sessions	Home Educated
Birth to moving I year	Toddlers to S	Club 5 to 11 year olds
olds	years	of the first state of the state
Woodland Rangers Holiday Woodland Rangers hosted		
Clubs		Parties 🔷
Half Term/Summer S	ichool and pri	vate bookings
Visit o	g essential, scan below ur website to find out ww.woodlandrangers.co.u	more



# **Medical and Welfare**



Welfare and Medical Officer - Cathy McLornan

Please be advised that Mrs McLornan is our Welfare and Medical Officer, who has responsibility for providing the following:

**Emotional Support** 

**Child Protection** 

Health and Well-being Programs

Administration of Medication, Illnesses, Health Care Plans and First Aid

Mrs McLornan can be contacted via the school office, avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk

#### 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 session 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.





@HCT\_SchoolNurse

QHct SchoolNursing

www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire Health

MEADINGTEENS www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire

School nursing duty number O300 123 7572 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays)

# Celebrations



**Celebration Friday** 

Hazel (Year 1):

- Nova-Roe W Writer of the Week
- Aaryaveer P Learner of the Week

#### Chestnut (Year 1/2)

- Duru C Learner of the Week
- Hadriel A Writer of the Week

Cedar (Year 2):

• Stuart O - Writer of the Week		
• Mark B - Learner of the Week		
Maple (Year 3):		
• Gianna C - Writer of the Week		
• Isabella O'B - Learner of the Week		
Birch (Year 4):		
Cole D - Leaner of the Week		
• Freddie T - Writer of the Week		
Willow (Year 5):		
• Darren P - Writer of the Week		
• Warner R - Learner of the Week		
Oak (Year 6):		
• Arthur H - Learner of the Week		
• Sofia M - Writer of the Week		



*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

Friday 19 July at 1.30pm: End of term (including Pre-School)

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

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

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 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**



Lead Teacher for the Specialist Resource Provision - Avanti Brook Primary School

Contract Type: Permanent

Hours: Full time

Salary/Grade: UPS1-3 with potential SEN allowance of £2,539

For further information click here: Lead Teacher for the Specialist Resource Provision

Closes: 23 June, 2024 at 11:59pm

Higher Level Teaching Assistant - Avanti Brook Primary School

Contract Type: Permanent

Hours: Part Time, Term Time

Salary/Grade: See advert details

For further information click here: Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Closes: 27 June, 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 Mrs Sam Ansell is PA to the Executive Principal Miss Charlotte Hall is our Senior Administrator and will answer queries about admissions Mrs Cathy McLornan is our Welfare, Medical 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 <a href="https://avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows/">https://avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows/</a>

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

#### 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