

December Issue 2024

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# **The Avanti Park Post**

Dear Parents, Carers

PRINCIPAL

FROM THE

**MESSAG** 

What a great term it has been! As we look forward to the Christmas break it's worth reflecting on the wonderful learning that has taken place this term at Avanti Park. Walking through the classrooms and seeing the engagement and joy that pupils take in their learning everyday has been a wonderful experience. I am so grateful to our staff for providing such an excellent learning environment.

Thank you also to yourselves for all the support you have shown both your children and their staff. It makes such a difference to have a parent body so committed to their children's learning.

I know you are eagerly awaiting news regarding the appointment of a substantive Principal. The third round of interviews are planned for late January. I will of course let you know the outcome.

I do wish you all a hugely enjoyable Christmas break and very much look forward to seeing you and your children on Monday January 6th.

Carolyn Dickinson, Interim Principal

Back to Monday 6th 2025

#### **Notices**

Absences.
Please can we remind you to call/email the office by <code>9am</code> on <code>each</code> <code>day</code> of their absence.
Email address:
absence.ap@avanti.org
.uk

# House points so far this year....

1st Harptree 9,428 2nd Blackdown 9,006 3rd Thurlbear 8,901 4th Dommet 8,895

Date	Event
06/01/25	Back to School
14/01/25	SEND Coffee Afternoon 2-3pm
23/01/25	YEar 8 Lesson 1 Royal Artillary Careers talk
24/01/25	INSET DAY
07/02/25	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
11/02/25	Year 8 Parents Evening 1
13/02/25	Year 8 Parents Evening 2



A HUGE thank you to Ryan's Christmas
Trees for the very kind donation of the
school's Christmas Tree. Ryan's have
generously been donating trees to
Avanti Park for the last few years. Do
consider paying thema visit if you are yet
to buy your tree.

## **Principals Award**





Elder Matilda

> Aspen Leo W

Walnut Poppy

> Birch Felicity

Hawthorn Ella H

Maple Aurora

Pine Freddie

Oak Alfie M

Ash Lilac D

Awarded

each half term to pupils who consistently display Avanti Park's core values and virtues.





Beech Molly

Cherry Ruben F

Chestnut Milah H

Hazel Lily B

Willow Roman W

Holly Julius W-S

Rowan Imre

Cedar Rosie Q Sycamore Elodie B

# **Shoebox Appeal**



We have been joining in with this for a few years now. The House of Opportunity is a charity which organises delivery of these very special Christmas gifts to vulnerable groups in Eastern Europe including Bulgaria. A house of opportunity allows groups of young people with often challenging background stories to live together communally and safely, learn practical skills so that they can look after themselves properly and also work-related skills so that they can lead independent lives in the future. Our parcels also go to old people's homes which look after lonely people whose families have moved away. The children watched a short video, prepared by the charity, which was moving in terms of how little some of these people have and how appreciative they are of these boxes. Thank you very much to all those who contributed to this worthy cause. This year was our best to date-115 boxes were packed into Pete's van and he only just about fitted the last ones in!







### Hanukkah

Hanukkah Festival for all year groups December 4th

We are very proud of our festival days! It gives us a chance to go off curriculum and find out about the beliefs of different groups of people. This term, we chose to find out more about the 'Miracle of the Oil,' often also referred to as the Jewish 'Festival of Light.' Our visitors entertained some of the lower year groups by telling them the story of the Miracle of the Oil and answering some questions about the Jewish religion. Our volunteer helpers made sure that all of the younger children had a chance to finish creative interpretations of the menorah (nine candled candelabra) including the Reception children who created a whole class image. The children also enjoyed learning and playing the dreidel game. Here are some photos of the day.







### Elf Run



This annual event raises money for local charities and this year, the School Council chose to support Purple Elephant. This is a Frome-based charity which supports families with children of any age. Many of you will have attended the Children's Festival that they have organised. The children had a great time running the course wearing tinsel, antlers, Santa hats, Christmas jumpers galore and more! Thank you again for your generosity in supporting this event.











#### YEAR 1



What a treat to be part of the fabulous Year One play! SO proud of everyone that took part. We all worked together as a team.









Left: Year One children absorbed in a story during their weekly visit to the school library.

Right: Year One children enjoying their lunch break in the school playground.



#### Year 2

A lovely forest school touch! A reenactment of the Great Fire of London, lighting the houses that the children made in class.



The elves have been busy writing Christmas letters and cards in their elf workshop!









The children have been busy making amazing Christmas decorations for their Christmas Show.

### **Visitors in Year 3**

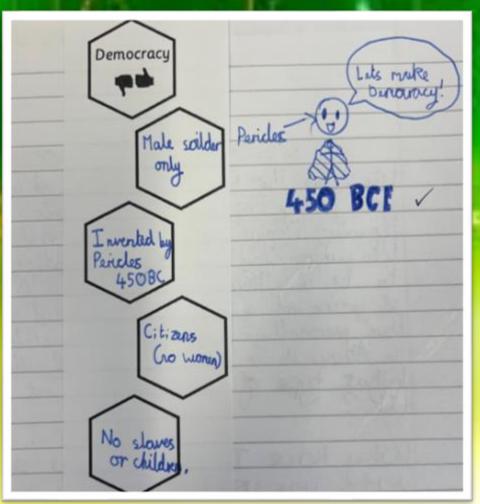
At the start of the half term, we welcomed Mr Stone Age for a fascinating day of theoretical and practical learning. In December, Mr Yogev joined us to introduce the Hanukkah festival. Each day, we are delighted when Poppy comes to visit – and we found time to discuss the meaning of Christmas visitors past and present as well! A busy and happy term working and growing together in Year 3.



### Year 5

have been learning about the origins of democracy in Ancient Greece, which ties in with one of our core British values. They also enjoyed learning about Hanukkah as part of our winter festival.







DR. ZEUS

Democracy

#### Year 6

With thanks to Jessica Francombe and the Arts Council England, Year 6 were invited to a wonderful performance of The Little Match Girl & Happier Tales at the Lucky Chance Theatre in Frome.

The children were enthralled by the ending. The adults' favourite moment was watching the children's faces as they waited in anticipation for the emperor to appear in his 'new clothes'. Without giving anything away, if you have tickets to watch the show, the 'new clothes' were met with gasps and raucous laughter.

We really enjoyed writing our own version of the 12 Days of Christmas so wanted to share it with you; you may want to sing along with your family around the tree.

On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to, a big yellow slice of cheddar cheese.

- 2) ...a small resin duck
- 3) ... Noodle the snake
- 4) ...pink press-on nails
- 5) ...A PET ROCK
- 6) ...rats wearing pants
- 7) ...a huge poisonous python
- 8) ...a David Bowie CD
- 9) ...Kurt Cobain's guitar
- 10) ...Jojo Siwa slaying
- 11) ...a tasty pot of baked beans
- 12) ...a pink Stanley cup

# **Year 7 – STEM day at Frome College!**





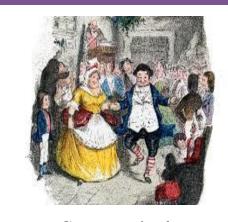




# Year 7 have been writing their own versions of 'A Christmas Carol'. Here are three extracts from their wonderful chronicles of Ebeneezer Scrooge.

"All alone," whispered Scrooge as he watched his young self, sit in what now felt like an endless void of loneliness. The warmest thing in the room was the wet, salty tear rolling down his lifeless cheek. His only entertainment was to watch the steam seeping out of his mouth and see it fade into nothing. Like his love for his family. As elderly Scrooge began to sulk, he remembered suddenly that this was the Christmas when he was taken home by his sister. On cue, in the scene before them, there was a knock at the door and Scrooge's sweet, loving sister filled the young boy's view along with his heart. She ran through the dark, damp room and embraced young Ebineezer into a warm, fuzzy hug of love. "Brother, brother! Father said you may come home. Oh please, please come home!" Flustered, young Scrooge stood up and walked to the door, taking one last look at the small room that had once felt like a cavern swallowing him whole as a monster it's prey. Turning around, he saw his old headmaster nodding him goodbye. So, off they went, skipping, dancing and singing through the melancholy school halls, past the high windows and out through the heavy grey door... on their way to Christmas. By Deri.

The streets of London wailed as a thick layer of snow covered the ground. It was unbearably cold. Inside, it was just as cold, however, the jolliness of



Mr. Fezziwig's party made it feel as warm as a Summer's day. "Come." Said the apparition as it guided Scrooge down into the small hall in which Fezziwig held his joyful ball every Christmas Eve. As they drew closer, Scrooge could make out the uplifting orchestra that played at the party.

By Herbie.

Shaken by the strange sight that he saw on the door knocker, Scrooge locked himself in for the first time since he inherited the house. He dropped into a protesting chair and tried to convince himself that he had imagined it. Suddenly, an earsplitting screech of metal filled the empty room followed by a creaking of floorboards. There was also a strange mouse-like squeak that came with the footsteps. A squeak that Scrooge had only heard in the shoes of... "No" Scrooge thought to himself. "It can't be him. ... It just can't be." But it was. For now, standing before him, was the ghoulish, dismal specter of .... Jacob Marley!! *By Sunny*.

### Year 8 – Science and Geography trip to Wessex Water Recycling Centre



# Happy holidays everybody!

**Year 8 – Frome College Options Evening** 







### **Option Subjects Information Evening**

All Current Year 8 Students and Parents are Invited to Explore the Optional Subjects Available for Year 9 Start September 2025

Date: Thursday, 30 January 2025

Presentation Times: 17:30 and 18:30

**Location: Merlin Theatre** 

Find out about:

Available option subjects Detailed subject information Application process

For more information email WDay@fromecollege.org.uk

Snuggle up and cozy down with a good book this Christmas!

# Club Vacancy

# Earthwise



#### Seeking an assistant for Forest School Club

Earthwise are looking for a Forest School assistant to join their after school club on Tuesdays from January - find more info about the club <u>here</u>.

You will be supporting Forest School Leader Kevin Button (who also runs Bridging Nature).

Financial contribution of £13 per hour from 2.45pm - 5.30pm on a self-employed basis.

As an assistant you will take an active role in the Forest School activities, assisting the children where needed and supporting the Forest School leader in maintaining the health and safety of the group.

- We are looking for someone that loves nature and the outdoors and has experience working with children.
- The person should be very reliable, practical and organised with great communication skills.
- Experience of Forest School desirable but not essential (we will provide essential training).
- The role is subject to an enhanced DBS check (if you are not already on the DBS update service we can arrange a fresh DBS check with the school if needed)

Contact Claire@getearthwise.co.uk for more information or to register your interest.

## Clubs

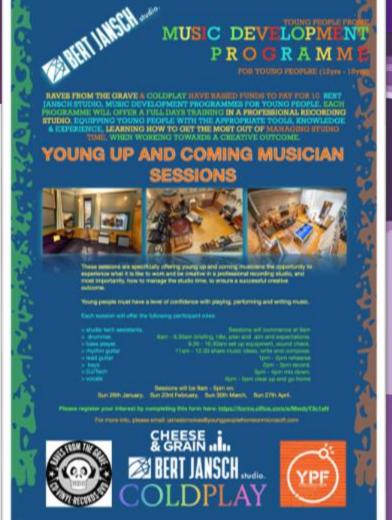




### **Events**









# **Special Thanks**

AVANTI PARK
Excellence Virtue Devotion

We are continuing our "Special Thanks" scheme in to the new year whereby parents, guardians, and carers are able to nominate and recognise staff for their efforts for supporting members in our Avanti community. This scheme was piloted at Avanti Park last year and made a real difference to our staff and their wellbeing.

To nominate a member of staff, please click on the following link:

https://avanti.org.uk/avantipark/parents/staffnominations-for-special-thanks/



# Merry Christmas from us all at Avanti Park



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