



# AVANTILIFE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST



## Avanti Schools Trust celebrates exceptional round of Ofsted results

### Congratulations to our schools who have achieved excellent Ofsted results this term

In its first inspection, Avanti Grange School in Bishops Stortford achieved "Outstanding" judgements in all areas on 7th May. Inspectors recognised the school to be an exceptionally positive community. "Pupils value each other, staff and the high-quality education they receive. Pupils live the 'Avantiway' by being compassionate, articulate and respectful 'changemakers'."

Avanti House Secondary School in Stanmore, which last year was ranked as a Top 3 Finalist in the World's Best School Award also celebrates "Outstanding" judgements in all areas following its latest Ofsted inspection on 10th June. Inspectors said: "There is a palpable love of learning. Pupils are tenacious in the face of challenge. Their commitment to their learning is unwavering. Pupils perform exceptionally well, in their work across subjects, and in national assessments at the end of their time at school."

They added: "The curriculum pupils learn is ambitious, engaging and extends beyond what is expected nationally."

Krishna Avanti School in Croydon maintained its

'Good' rating following its latest Ofsted inspection on 24th April. The report highlights the school's shared values and how pupils demonstrate virtues such as self-discipline, humility and empathy.

Avanti House Primary School, Stanmore maintained its 'Good' judgment in an ungraded (section 8) inspection on 20th May 2025. The evidence gathered suggests that the inspection grade might be outstanding if a graded (section 5) inspection were carried out now. Ofsted described Avanti House Primary as a "thriving, happy place where pupils are empowered to make changes, influence others and improve their community."

Dr James Biddulph MBE Incoming CEO Avanti Schools Trust said: "I am delighted with the excellent round of Ofsted results for many of our schools. This is down to the commitment of our educators, teachers and support teams, great administrators and site teams, empowered by deeply inspired leaders. Success doesn't happen in isolation and the thanks owed stretches to our Trustees, SSC members, central colleagues. Most importantly, the success is for our young people who step up to the high standards expected of them."





# Message from Dr James Biddulph MBE FCCT



As the school year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect with heartfelt gratitude. To our young people, staff, and families – thank you. You have each played a part in making our Avanti community; to those who have created Arts' Weeks, to those who supported school events, to those who enabled the Avanti Sings project. So many people are involved and they are all changemakers!

Change is never easy, but it is necessary. Whether you're moving up a year, starting fresh in a new place, or simply saying goodbye to what's familiar, know that growth lives in these moments. They are not endings – they are beginnings in disguise.

One of my favourite reminders is:

**“Every journey begins with a single step, but it's the direction that matters most.”**

Wherever your next step leads, take the best of what you've learned here with you. The friendships, the challenges you overcame, the laughter in the hallways – these are your foundations.

**“The future isn't something we find – it's something we create, together.”**

So, step forward with confidence. Be proud of who you've become, and excited for who you're yet to be. We're cheering you on, every step of the way.

With warmest wishes and deepest thanks,

Dr James Biddulph MBE FCCT  
Incoming Chief Executive Officer





# Avanti Schools Trust welcomes new CEO in ceremonial transition

On Thursday 3rd July, a poignant chapter unfolded in the story of the Avanti Schools Trust, as the mantle of leadership passed from founding Chief Executive Nitesh Gor OBE to Dr James Biddulph MBE.

The handover took place at Krishna Avanti Primary School in Harrow, the birthplace of Avanti's vision. In the sacred presence of Sri Sri Krishna-Balarama, priests from Bhaktivedanta Manor conducted a traditional Vedic fire ceremony.

The ceremony was a consecration of purpose, known in Sanskrit as the transition of Kulapati, the seat of institutional headship. The moment was sanctified with prayers to Sarasvati, goddess of learning, and Hayagriva, guardian of knowledge.

Trustees, Principals, department heads, and cherished friends of the Avanti community, alongside spiritual leaders from Bhaktivedanta

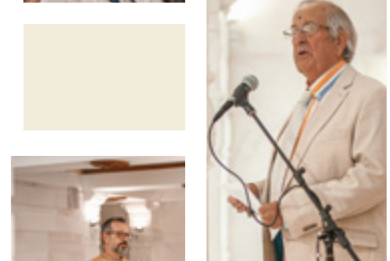
Manor gathered for the occasion.

Mike Younger, Chair of Trustees, delivered a moving tribute to Nitesh:

"Over the past eight years, Nitesh has been a source of wisdom, calmness, and resoluteness—always prepared to offer selfless, quiet advice. The evolution of our 12 schools stands as a testament to his vision and dedication, and we know Avanti is in good hands for the future."

With sincere gratitude, the Avanti community celebrates the extraordinary dedication of Nitesh Gor in establishing the Trust as a beacon of values-led education. As Dr Biddulph steps in as CEO, there is a renewed spirit of unity, purpose, and celebration.

See the highlights here: <https://youtube.com/shorts/5ycRIJnKen0>



# Beside the seaside!



This summer term, Year 2 pupils at Avanti Fields Primary enjoyed a wonderful trip to Skegness to support their current topic 'Beside the Seaside' and to celebrate their fantastic SATs results. The children and staff spent a joyful day at the beach, soaking up the sunshine, building sandcastles, exploring the natural environment and enjoying delicious ice cream. It was a truly enriching experience, enabling them to develop their intellectual, moral and spiritual growth alongside rewarding the children's hard work and resilience throughout the year. A great day out was had by all – full of laughter, learning, and lasting memories!



## Open to visitors



Avanti Gardens Pre-School is now open to visitors following its successful open days!

With spacious classrooms, a beautiful garden, and a strong focus on well-being and early development, the pre-school will accommodate 26 full time children and will be led by a qualified teacher.

Principal Mr Penny said: "This marks an exciting milestone in our journey to provide high-quality, nurturing education from the very start of a child's learning experience. Our Pre-School will offer a warm, inspiring environment where children can explore, play, and develop a lifelong love of learning."





## takes root at Avanti schools

Krishna Avanti Primary School Harrow came alive with community spirit as families and staff gathered on Good Friday for a school-wide planting event aimed at raising awareness about the importance of caring for Mother Earth.

With shovels in hand and smiles on their faces, parents, grandparents, children, and members of the school team joined forces to fill the school planters and sow a variety of seeds, transforming the space into a greener, more vibrant environment.

This hands-on experience offered a wonderful opportunity to teach children about the importance of caring for Mother Earth. The event

left a lasting impression on all who attended, serving as a reminder of the power of togetherness and the values we hold dear at KAPSH.

At Avanti Fields Primary, the children enjoyed a fun-filled day of meaningful activities, including planting, litter picking around the school grounds, and creating their very own Earth Day pledges.

"It was fantastic to see everyone getting into the spirit of the day, especially with all the creative and thoughtful outfits the children wore. Thank you for your support in helping make this day both educational and enjoyable!", said Bhavisha Ganatra.

## Careers in Science workshop

At Avanti Fields Secondary School, Year 7 students got hands on with inspiring Careers in Science workshop.

Reshma's Academy and The Aspire Initiative delivered an engaging session with interactive stations, ranging from suturing practicals, taking vitals for the body, analysing the test results, and writing prescriptions.

Nisha Kholia said: "The enthusiasm and dedication of the team truly made a lasting impact, and we appreciated the efforts in making the session both educational and enjoyable. We look forward to future opportunities to engage with Reshma's Academy and The Aspire Initiative."





## Yes Fest

Avanti House Primary joined 11 schools at Yes Fest Harrow—a Youth Eco Summit with a festival vibe. Yes Fest empowers 8–10 year olds to become agents of environmental change through nature based learning, creative workshops and peer collaboration. Over the two-day event, pupils took part in a range of hands-on activities including learning about different insect species, and exploring key topics like climate change, fossil fuels and biodiversity. They got creative by making eco-monsters out of clay and natural materials, and even won the competition to design their own sustainable houses! Children camped overnight in tents at West Lodge School, enjoyed pizza, hot chocolate and marshmallows by the fire, and listened to stories that reminded them how even one person can spark change when they have the courage to act.

## Avanti Brook get Pretty Muddy



A team of friends and colleagues at Avanti Brook will be taking part in the Chelmsford Pretty Muddy 5k event, raising funds for Cancer Research UK. The incredible group of school staff decided to take on the challenge after they heard of Mrs Sarah Samuels' cancer diagnosis earlier this year.

"We realised that cancer will knock, uninvited at any time on anyone's door," said Sam Ansell. "It has impacted us all but above all we want to do what we can for Mrs Samuels and cancer research."

"I am sharing the news of my diagnosis in the hopes of it bringing awareness that cancer can impact anyone at any age/stage of life," said Mrs

Sarah Samuels. "I want to encourage everyone to check or be checked if they have any concerns, no matter how small. Set your reminder for the first of the month and do a self-exam. Catching things early makes tumours more treatable and presents less risk of the cancer spreading."

"Training isn't going too well," said Miss Ansell. "We have all decided as it is a muddy event that we will enjoy wallowing in the mud and not make it a race to the finish line!"

This event takes place on Sunday 13th July in Hylands Park, Chelmsford. To donate please click: Brook Babes - [Pretty Muddy 5k](#)



# Avanti Fields student signs football scholarship with Notts County



Having made a brilliant impression on the Club, Rares Ciuera, Avanti Fields Y11, has been selected as one of nine youngsters to have signed scholarship contracts with Notts County ahead of the 2025-26 season.

Notts County Youth Development Phase Lead, Willis Francis said, "Originally from Romania, Rares has made an instant impact after joining us recently.

"He plays with the flair and freedom you might expect from an international player who is a late arrival into academy football – but he also works incredibly hard and is eager to learn and improve. Rares' athletic physique, creativity and eye for goal make him an exciting player to watch."

"This is an outstanding achievement for Rares", says Mr Raj Sangar, Head of Year, about Rares, who has also represented the Avanti Fields football team.

"He has shown exceptional focus and discipline—balancing his academic responsibilities while

preparing for his GCSE exams and successfully securing an apprenticeship with Notts County. Rares has been a true asset to Avanti Fields. His hard work, determination, and positive attitude have made everyone proud."

Notts County Football Club is the world's oldest professional football club. Founded in 1862, the club competes in EFL League Two, the fourth tier of English football, following promotion from the National League in the 2022–23 season.



We are excited to see Rares' progress and wish him the best of luck!

# Brand new Croydon mural blends cultural identity, spirituality, and education

Krishna Avanti Primary School, Croydon's playground has been brightened up with a colourful new mural, turning the EYFS outdoor area into an upbeat, warm and welcoming space.

Local street artist and teacher of art in a local primary school Alec Saunders painted an image of the Tree of Life which presents the roots of spiritual insight, which strengthen the trunk of character formation, which in turn supports the crown of educational excellence and in giving back to our communities.

"We wanted to find an image which was in mode with The Avanti Way which sets out our purpose and vision, but also one that the youngest children could relate to and feel inspired by," said Principal, Bijal Pandya.

"Avanti's core beliefs deeply resonate with me," said Alec. "Many of these are linked to growth in some way. Growth is more than a theme; it's a journey—and being part of an environment where children are constantly evolving felt like a

meaningful opportunity to contribute through art.

"What I love about this project is how it blends cultural identity, spirituality, and education. The mural reflects both personal and collective growth—how students develop not just academically, but emotionally and morally too.

"A special feature is the use of real gold leaf, which symbolises the inner light and potential in every child. Just as gold is revealed through care and refinement, so too is each child's brilliance nurtured over time. I believe the mural will serve as a daily source of inspiration—reminding children of their value, their journey, and the beauty of who they're becoming."

Bijal Pandya said: "The children absolutely loved it and were really impressed by how much their space has been made to come alive with colour and lovely imagery. It is a beautiful mural which looks even more amazing in the flesh. It really lifts the space and has made it so much more of a vibrant space."





## Science Week – Exploring Change & Adapt!



During Science Week, pupils at Avanti House Primary School dove into the theme 'Change & Adapt', exploring how living things and materials transform around them. Through hands-on practical activities—like adapting simple machines, investigating camouflage, and experimenting with dissolving materials—they discovered that change is at the heart of science.

Teachers and guest science enthusiasts held a special science assembly and workshop for all classes. To top it off, the children embraced the spirit of the week by coming to school dressed as scientists—a colourful parade of molecular biologists, environmental engineers, astronauts, chemists, and more!

A special highlight was the Year 5 Rocket Workshop, where children designed, built, and successfully launched their very own rockets. The playground was filled with excitement and cheers as each rocket soared skyward—an unforgettable way to explore forces and motion in action.



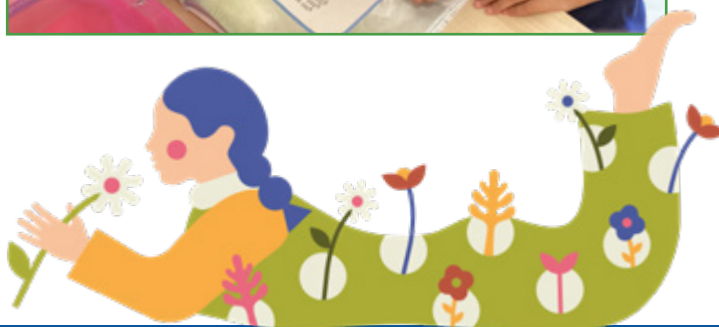
## Celebrating Avanti's multilingual community



Krishna Avanti Primary School, Croydon, has sourced a rich selection of bilingual books to encourage a love for reading and for the children to connect to the books in their first languages.

The Reception class welcomed parents into the classroom to join them an afternoon of reading in their mother tongue on Friday 16th May. The families read from the books in languages including Gujarati, Hindi, Hungarian, Tamil, and Telegu.

Parents and children had a wonderful afternoon and were keen to borrow the books and take them to read at home. By using their languages in a school environment, children can see that there is a place for languages other than just English in school and that their skills as a bilingual speaker are valued.





# Music Matters



Krishna Avanti Harrow's music performances were a wonderful celebration of the children's hard work and creativity. Pupils from Reception to Year 6 took to the stage to showcase their musical talents, performing a wide variety of songs and playing an impressive range of instruments. From joyful group singing and ensemble pieces, the children demonstrated their growing musical skills and enthusiasm. It was a fantastic event that highlighted the progress they have made and the joy that music brings to our school community.

## Sacred Ceremony at Krishna Avanti Primary School



A Narasimha Yagna - a powerful Vedic ritual dedicated to Lord Narasimha, was held at Krishna Avanti Primary School, Leicester, performed by Mr Preyesh Patel, Head of PRE at Avanti Fields. The half-man and half-lion incarnation of Vishnu is celebrated for destroying evil and protecting devotees.

Before the ceremony, the children were enlightened on how the yagna is performed to seek divine protection, bring peace, prosperity and spiritual purification. Children

relished learning the beautiful pastimes of the devotee prince Prahlad Maharaj and how the yagna symbolises triumph of righteousness over tyranny.





# Celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE day

A group of children from Avanti Court were invited to join civil and local leaders to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day, a historic moment when the Second World War came to an end in Europe.

To commemorate this milestone, a special service was held at Fairlop Waters which brought together school children, community groups, and local dignitaries.

"The children were inspired to reflect on and think of those who fought for freedom," said Principal Dravit Koorich.

"We learnt many lessons from Cllr Kam Rai, who taught us to 'do the right thing, even when it's hard.' Wes Streeting MP for Ilford North and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care touched on the point that 'ordinary people are capable of



extraordinary acts of evil,' and Cllr Sheila Bain told us about quiet commitment to do what was necessary and to always show compassion.

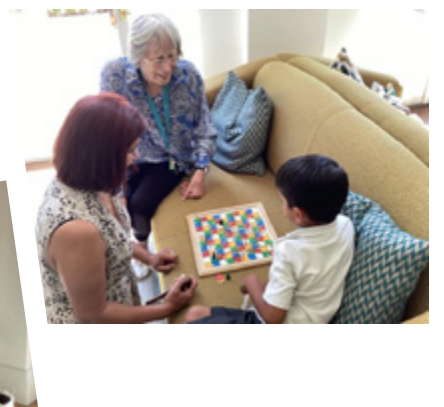
"We learned how everyone played a part, no matter the size and situation, reminding us of the Ramayana story about building of the bridge to Lanka where they set aside differences and collaborated to defeat the enemy."

## A joyful connection between the generations



Teachers and children from Avanti Fields Primary and Krishna Avanti Primary Schools visited the Somerville Supported Living Facility, where they spent a joyful afternoon connecting with the elderly residents. With board games, books, and big smiles, the children brought warmth and youthful energy to the home, creating a truly special atmosphere. The visit beautifully embodied The Avanti Way, as the children lived out the values of empathy, gratitude, respect, courage, self-discipline, and integrity in every interaction.

As they read stories, played games, and engaged in heartfelt conversations, the children showed empathy by listening attentively and forming bonds with the residents. The residents shared their wisdom, offering life lessons and memories that deeply moved both the children and staff. The children expressed how honoured they felt to be part of such a meaningful experience. They treated the residents with great respect, while showing courage in stepping out of their comfort zones to read aloud and start conversations. Throughout the visit, they maintained self-discipline and conducted themselves with quiet dignity, guided by integrity in every word and action.



## Oxford University Academic Enrichment Programme



Year 10 pupils at Avanti Fields Secondary School have signed up for a 10-week enrichment programme with Oxford University. Each year, Balliol College runs a sustained Discovery Programme for Year 10 students who attend UK state schools. Discovery consists of a series of online academic sessions in which Oxford University graduates introduce a topic that links to their own research. This year they will be studying extensive topics in a range of subjects, including pre and post session assignments in: Machine Learning, Politics, Chemistry, Philosophy, Biology, Law, English, Economics, Psychology, Art History.

## Model UN at Haberdashers

Year 12 Avanti House attended the Haberdashers' Model United Nations Conference. Prior to the conference the students researched their debate topics to grasp a detailed understanding of the topic in order to form a resolution, which is a technical aspect of MUN that proposes calls for action to be undertaken by the UN. Examples of some of the engaging debate topics include: The Question of Integrating Refugees into Host Country Economies and The Question of Ensuring Digital Access as a Fundamental Human Right. It was a rewarding and valuable three days where students could learn about the importance of global cooperation, as well as form new friendships.



## TT Rockstars Day

Maths Week got the superstar treatment at Avanti Gardens school on Friday 9th May. The children came dressed either as numbers or rockstars, filling the classrooms and hallways with creativity and excitement. Some students wore colourful digits, while others sparkled with glittery jackets and toy guitars. It was a joyful celebration that made learning about numbers unforgettable—and showed that maths really can rock!



## Avanti Forgotten Women Society

This half term, the efforts of the Avanti Forgotten Women Society have seen the installation of free and accessible period products in



the girls' toilets, ensuring no student is left without support. Beyond the school walls, they've also led a successful donation drive, delivering much-needed period products to the YMCA Homeless Centre in Bishop's Stortford—offering dignity and care to those facing hardship. This is what spiritually compassionate changemaking looks like. The society welcomes all students—girls and boys—who want to be part of something purposeful.





# AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST

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