



The Avenue Primary School,
7 The Avenue,
Warminster, Wilts, BA12 9AA
Tel: 01985 213383

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Newsletter Monday 28th June 2021

A Message from Miss Thomas:

Over the last week, children in Year 1 to Year 6 have been taking their end of year tests. I have been really pleased with how the children have approached these, showing resilience and positivity. Early indications show that many children are achieving the standard expected for their year group, and where they are not, have made progress towards that standard from the last assessment point just after lockdown. Once the assessments are complete, we will look carefully at it to identify where children may need additional support in September to continue to address any gaps caused by lockdowns and school closures.

Assessment data will be shared with parents towards the end of term.

Although we are unable to hold our usual Sports Day this year due to covid restrictions, over the next few weeks, each class will take part in some sporting activities. This will be a mixture of team activities and races and children will earn house points which will be totalled to give an overall winning house. I look forward to seeing the children enjoying their sporting activities.

TD days 2020/2021

Friday 2nd July 2021

TD days 2021/2022

Wednesday 1st September 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Friday 1st July 2022

Mon 25th July 2022

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Last day of Term 6: Friday 23rd July 2021

School Calendar: Please see the end of the newsletter

CONGRATULATIONS:

To the following children who are celebrating their birthday's during the last few days and over the next week: Matilda, Freddie, James, Leo, James & Sam. Congratulations to Alfie, Finley, Mariam, Joeson, & Maleli for achieving their 25 point certificate. To Yazmin & Toby for their Bronze badges. To Lily, Jacob, Afreen and Esmee for their Silver badges. To Krystal for her Gold badge and to Oliver & Ethan for achieving their Platinum badges. Well done all.

Covid19 Update:

Please remember that if your child or any member of your household (including your childcare bubble or support bubble, if you have one) develops Covid19 symptoms all members of your household should isolate. You must book a test for the symptomatic person and phone or email the school office to let us know (01985 213383 or admin@avenue.wilts.sch.uk).

You can arrange a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119.

The symptoms to look out for are:

- New, persistent cough
- High temperature
- Change to sense of taste or smell

If you do need to get a test for a member of your household, once you get the result, please let us know as follows:

- Negative result – phone or email the school office
- Positive result – email me (ct@avenue.wilts.sch.uk) as soon as you get the result, whatever time of day that is.

If we do get a positive case in school, we will work with the Public Health Team to identify close contacts and they will be asked to isolate.

Covid19 Testing:

There appears to be some confusion regarding covid19 testing. The guidance we have been given is as follows:

Lateral Flow Tests:

The purpose of these tests is to identify asymptomatic cases (people who have covid19 but do not have any symptoms). All school staff, secondary school pupils and parents are able to test twice weekly using Lateral Flow Tests. **Lateral Flow Tests are not designed for use with Primary School age children** and should never be used on them.

PCR Tests:

PCR tests are the tests that are administered if you book a test at a test centre, such as the centre at the front of our school. A PCR test is required for anyone who has covid19 symptoms, regardless of whether or not a Lateral Flow Test has been used. A PCR test also has to be undertaken following a positive Lateral Flow Test to confirm the result.

This means that anyone with covid19 symptoms must book and have a PCR test. Children and staff who have symptoms and all members of their household cannot attend school until a negative PCR test result is obtained.

Social Media:

We have now set up a Facebook page as well as our Twitter page. Please search for us, like our Facebook page and follow our Twitter page, if you could also share our pages, it would be much appreciated.

The purpose of these pages is to promote our school in the wider community. We will post regularly about what the children are doing in school. Feel free to like our posts! The pages are set up so that only specific staff can post and at present we will not be posting photos that identify children.

Please do not use the pages to ask questions – any queries should continue to be sent to the office either by email (admin@avenue.wilts.sch.uk) or phone (01985 213383) or to your child's class teacher via Class Dojo.

Free School Meals:

If you are not currently eligible for Free School Meals, please see the criteria below to check whether you may be eligible to apply:

Free School Meals are available to eligible children that attend school within Wiltshire on a fulltime basis. This includes Nursery children of compulsory school age who attend school full-time. You must be in receipt of one of the benefits listed below to be eligible for Free School Meals for your child or children.

• Income Support

- Income-based **Job Seekers Allowance** (NOT contribution based JSA)
- Income-related **Employment and Support Allowance** (NOT contribution based ESA)
- Support under **Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999** - National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS)
- The guarantee element of **State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (you must NOT be entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190 (April 2012)
- **Working Tax Credit** 'run-on' - the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- **Universal Credit** (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £10,000) If you think that you may qualify for Free School Meals please see the application form on our website.

Hot dinners:

We are pleased to be continuing to offer children in ALL year groups a hot dinner. If you would like to order one for your child, please do so by the end of the day on a Wednesday in readiness for the following week. You are of course also welcome to order a packed lunch for your child or to provide them with a lunch from home if you prefer.

Can we gently remind parents that we do not have the facility to cater for any children that do not have a meal ordered or a packed lunch provided. On these occasions, we will call and ask you to bring in a meal.

Please do contact the office if you have any questions about Wisepay.

Smoking:

Please may we remind all parents that the school grounds are a smoke-free zone. Whilst we appreciate that the lane and pathways outside of the gates are not school property, please do refrain from smoking when you are queuing with your child and wait until all children have entered school.

Horses Campaign:

WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER FEED HORSES, PONIES OR DONKEYS WITHOUT THE OWNER'S PERMISSION

Since the start of the pandemic and during the three national lockdowns, there has been an increase in people visiting the countryside. During these visits, members of the public have fed horses and ponies that do not belong to them and sadly, **many animals have died or have become very poorly as a result.**

Most horses, ponies and donkeys are kept as pets and used for pleasure, rather than work. As we know, pet owners love their animals very much and take very good care of them. Owners of horses, ponies and donkeys are no different from owners of any other family pet, such as the family dog or cat and would be devastated if anything happened to them.

HORSES CANNOT BE SICK AND SO MAY CHOKE ON FOOD THEY CAN'T CHEW.

Many horses and ponies have choked to death on vegetables such as raw potatoes, something they'd never usually eat, but can also choke on carrots etc., if they can't chew them. Horses are regularly treated by equine dentists, but elderly ponies with few teeth can also choke if they are eating too much hay at once. A passer-by could offer some but it might be more than they can manage in one go, resulting in difficulty, so this careful management is best left to the owner.

SOME HORSES HAVE DIABETES.

This is called Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS) for horses. Any horse, pony or donkey with this condition should avoid eating fruit, vegetables or anything else with a high sugar content.

SOME HORSES GET REALLY BAD TUMMY ACHES

- very easily. It is called Colic for horses, which is caused by food getting stuck inside their gut causing a blockage. It is incredibly painful for horses and requires immediate veterinary attention and possibly surgery. In some cases, colic may even lead to death.

HORSES, PONIES AND DONKEYS CAN PUT ON WEIGHT VERY EASILY

- and will quickly become too fat if allowed to eat more than they need. Being overweight will lead to various health problems which makes them feel very ill. Owners have to be very strict when it comes to their horse's diet. They will weigh hay and horse feed precisely, in order to make sure that their pet is not over eating.

MOST HORSES, PONIES AND DONKEYS ARE ON STRICT DIETS SO MUST NOT EAT ANYTHING OF A HIGH SUGAR CONTENT.

Many fruits and vegetables have too much sugar to be a healthy treat for horses so apples and carrots as well as things like Peppermints should never be fed to a horse without the owner's permission.

SOME HORSES HAVE ALLERGIES TO CERTAIN FOODS

- even things like dusty hay. If you do not know what the horse is allergic to, you might be giving that horse food that they have an allergic reaction to. This could result in breathing difficulties which will require immediate veterinary attention.

HORSES, PONIES AND DONKEYS CAN BE VERY UNPREDICTABLE AND DANGEROUS TO BE AROUND.

Most horses are privately owned so are often only used to one handler. They ARE NOT like riding school ponies, who are used to being handled by lots of different people, including children.

If strangers start to offer them treats, they tend to start to get 'nippy' with people and quarrelsome with their field mates. You are at risk of being bitten or kicked if you start feeding horses that are not yours. You should never enter the field of a horse or pony you don't know. Horses can also cause a lot of pain if they stand on your foot!

NEVER FEED FREE ROAMING PONIES.

Found in the New Forest, on Exmoor, Dartmoor, Wales etc., free roaming ponies are an essential part of natural land and not there for your entertainment. Feeding them interferes with their natural routines and could encourage them to gather near roads which makes them extremely vulnerable to road traffic accidents.

LAWN MOWER CUTTINGS ARE EXTREMELY DEADLY TO HORSES

- but many people aren't aware of this. Cut grass is very different to hay of grazing due to the fermentation process - which is very fast and can poison a horse very quickly. People have emptied grass very quickly into paddocks but this is extremely dangerous as horses will greedily gobble them up not realising it will harm them.

SOME HORSES CANNOT EAT GRASS AT ALL.

If you see a horse, pony or donkey in a small paddock with no grass, or wearing a muzzle to reduce how much they eat, it is because grass makes them very ill. The illness is called Laminitis and gives them incredibly painful hooves. To prevent laminitis, the owner has to keep their pet off grass and on a low sugar diet. It may look cruel, but the only other alternative is to have their pet put-to-sleep because they can no longer stand up on their hooves.



The best way to behave around horses, ponies or donkeys that you do not know, is:

- DO NOT FEED THEM ANYTHING - as they may have health problems or, they may injure you with their quest for food and may cause arguments amongst their field friends.
- ENJOY LOOKING AT THEM FROM A SAFE DISTANCE - because they may not be used to strangers so might kick out or bite you.

Feeding horses without the owner's consent can cause unnecessary suffering. This is an offence under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and the person(s) responsible could be liable for prosecution.

If you ever have concerns about an animal's welfare, please contact the owner in the first instance (which is easier to do thanks to social media), or the RSPCA. If the horse is in danger, you can also report it to the police.

Please can we ask that no one ever feeds an animal that they do not have the owner's permission to feed. We invite those concerned to join the group 'Stop Feeding Our Horses' and we are happy to answer anyone's questions on this matter. Please share this message far and wide and help us to prevent any more tragedies.

#StopFeedingOurHorses



Interested in becoming a Governor?



Vacancy for an Academy Council Governor at The Avenue Primary School, Warminster

Would you like to take an active role in supporting our school and its pupils?

We are looking for community and school representatives to join our Academy Council.

The Academy Council operates as a sub-committee of The Acorn Education Trust Board of Trustees.

As a member of the Academy Council this role is to both support and challenge the school. You will need to ask questions to help investigate how the school is progressing. Simply by asking key questions and listening to the responses, you can help.

Much like a Governing Body, the Academy Council's role is to:

- Ensure children learn in a safe environment and to the maximum of their ability
- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Promote the safety and wellbeing of students including behaviour, discipline and attendance.

You will be provided with training and support and would be expected to attend 4 evening meetings during the academic school year, these will be a mix of in person and virtual

If you have the skills, time, commitment and discretion to help The Avenue Primary School move forward please contact Zoe Stockley, Governance Adviser.

Acorn Education Trust, c/o Kingdown School, Woodcock Road, Warminster, BA12 9DR. Telephone: 07828 317188.
Email zas@acorneducationtrust.com.

2021-2022 Term Dates

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2021-22

Wiltshire Council

	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21
Monday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Sunday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28

	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27

	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Monday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Thursday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Friday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Saturday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Sunday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29

	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug/Sept-22
Monday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25 1
Friday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26 2
Saturday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27 3
Sunday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28 4

Bank and Public Holidays 2021/2022

Christmas Day Holiday	27th December 2021	Term 1	36
Boxing Day Holiday	28th December 2021	Term 2	35
New Years Holiday	3rd January 2022	Term 3	34
Good Friday	15th April 2022	Term 4	30
Easter Monday	18th April 2022	Term 5	24
May Day Holiday	2nd May 2022	Term 6	36
Spring Bank Holiday	30th May 2022	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	29th August 2022		