



Newsletter

Dec 2017

Message from Miss Thomas: Not only have the children been working hard in class over the last few weeks, they have also been busy getting involved in a variety of activities in the build-up to Christmas. KS1, Nursery and Reception all performed their Christmas plays to packed audiences; the choir performed at the Christmas Fayre, St Lawrence's Chapel and Homeminster House; the whole school visited the Minster Church Tree Festival; Christmas Lunch was a success and today each class will enjoy their Christmas Party! Thank you for your support with all of these events, whether you volunteered to help walk to Minster Church, came and supported your child's performance or made sure your child had everything they needed for their party – it all counts. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. I hope you all have an enjoyable break and look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

Staffing Update: Today we say goodbye to Mrs Smith who has been part of the teaching team at The Avenue for the last 9 years. Mrs Smith is going to be focussing on writing children's books, with the aim of becoming a published author. She has been a huge part of the school and will be missed by both staff and children. Mrs Ballard, who has been teaching in Canada Class since September, is also leaving to relocate to Poole. We also say goodbye to Mrs Ringwood and Mrs Rosevear who are part of the MDSA team. I would like to thank them all for their hard work and wish them all the best in their futures. This term we have welcomed Mrs Chalmers to the Y5/6 TA team, Mrs Fox to the EYFS TA team, Miss Tiseli as French teacher, Mrs Philips to the MDSA team and Mrs Harry to the cleaning team all of whom have already settled in well to Avenue life. In the new year we will also be welcoming Miss Cook to the Y3/4 TA team and Miss Hallett to the EYFS TA team.

Some of our current staff will be changing their roles in January. Mrs Whitehouse will be taking on a new role of Behaviour Support Assistant; Mrs Caple will be stepping into the role of HLTA with China class for 4 afternoons; Mrs Sykes will be moving to the Y5/6 TA team and coming away from Germany class for 3 afternoons to carry out ELSA interventions; Mrs Eglin will be joining the KS1 TA team in the afternoons and Mrs O'Hagan and Mrs Purdue will be joining the Resource Base TA team for an afternoon each.

Finally, Mr Porter's role as Interim Headteacher at Great Wishford Primary School has now finished giving him more time to devote to his Executive Head role across The Avenue, St John's and Great Wishford. This means he will be using The Avenue as his base more often. There is no change to the leadership structure at The Avenue, it will just mean we will all see more of Mr Porter in the New Year.

School Christmas Lunch: – a great time was had by all.



The Academy Council wishes all pupils, parents & carers, staff and friends of The Avenue Primary School and Children's Centre a joyful Christmas and happy new year!



Karate Grading: Congratulations to all those pictured here – they are part of the Chimsar Shotokan Karate club on a Monday evening and all received a certificate & new belt for passing their next grade.

Uniform: I would like to remind you that children should be coming to school in school uniform. This includes: black school shoes, blue jumper/cardigan and small hair accessories for holding hair in place. All children should also be bringing a warm coat to school at this time of year. Please make sure your child returns to school in January wearing the correct uniform. Teachers will be speaking with parents of children who are not wearing correct uniform.

Christmas Cookery: China class have been taking turns to do some Christmas baking with Mrs Lawrie this term. They made stained glass window biscuits and the children enjoyed getting their hands messy while kneading the dough.....and eating the leftover sweets!



Reception Class in "A Little Bird told me"



KS1 and their production of "The Smallest Tree"

A huge thank you to the Friends of the Avenue School who raised a fantastic £1,494.49 at the Christmas Fayre and a massive "Thank you" to parents, staff and pupils who supported them.



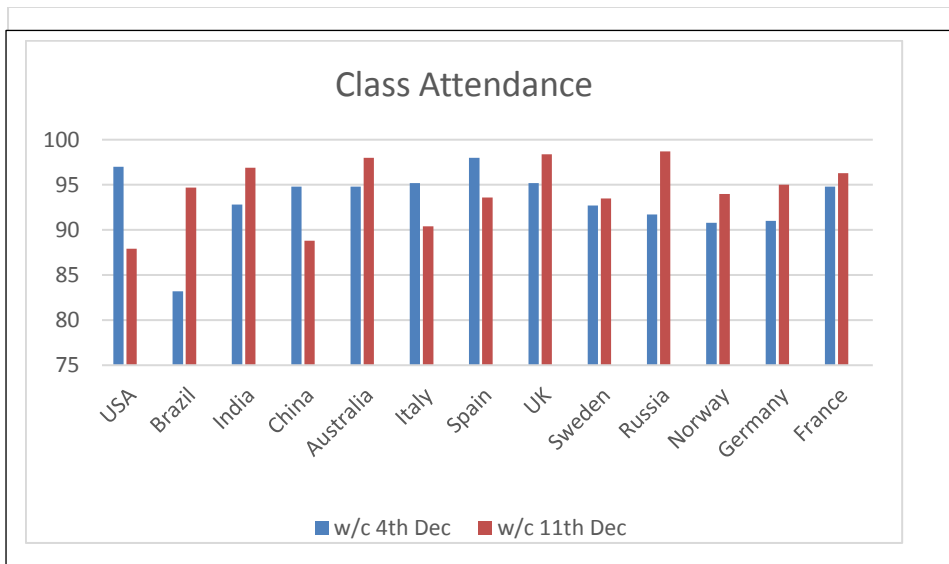
A Touch of Tradition: UK, Italy and Spain classes each made a decoration from a pine cone for the Avenue Year 3 / 4 tree at Minster Church Christmas Tree Festival. Our tree named – “A Touch of Tradition and a little bit of Sparkle” – was stunning and received many compliments.

Reading Expectations: winners of the lucky dip for achieving reading expectations in Term 2 were:
Jack Nash, Ryan Kerrigan, Oliver Grant, Austin Turner and Brooke Cheffey.
Congratulations to them and everyone who received a special wristband this term for achieving our reading expectations.

VIP Tea with Miss T:
The following children enjoyed a VIP tea with Miss Thomas earlier this week, after decorating biscuits with Mrs Sykes and Mrs Caple, ready for the “tea party”.

Congratulations to Noah Vinakadina (Brazil), Charley Lowe (USA), Unaisi Sikivou (India), Scarlett Hopkins (China), Lucy Gasgarth (Australia), Mia Cashmore (France), Oliver Burke (UK), Luke Blakey (Spain), Miley Hawkins (Italy), Sam Navunisaravi (Sweden), Katie Chudleigh (Norway), Brianna Calvert (Russia) and Harrison Head (Germany).

Attendance: Each week we award a trophy to the class with the best attendance - see chart below for details. UK class have the best average attendance over the 2 weeks with 96.8%, followed by Australia with 96.4%.



House Points: Congratulations to these children for achieving the following awards:
PLATINUM: Freddie Eglin and Lily Toner, **GOLD:** Callum Shillito, Trinity O'Brien, Kyle Charlesworth, Elouise Poolman and Madison Miller. **SILVER:** Aslan Morady, Emily Roberts and Chase Eglin. **BRONZE:** Lily Rose Carter, Lilly Bowness, Cerys Dench, Layla Light, Hannah Jowers, Mia Cashmore and Bijay Gurung.

Hot Dinners: Please remember to send a packed lunch for your child if you haven't already ordered them a hot dinner for 4th & 5th January 2018. Thank you.

Diary Dates

January 2018

Return to School Thurs 4th Jan '18

4th – after school clubs start

4th – Whole School Assembly

10th – Cricket starts

15th – House Assembly

17th – Dance Workshop

22nd – Whole School Assembly

29th – India & Sweden Class Assembly

February

5th – Australia Class Assembly

7th – Dance Festival

8th – end of term 3