



The Avenue Primary School,
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Tel: 01985 213383

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Newsletter Thursday 29th April 2021

A Message from Miss Thomas:

I hope you all had a good Easter break. Children and staff have returned fresh and ready for the term ahead. Topics across the school are based on the theme of Healthy Living and I have seen a variety of science learning taking place. I have seen classes learning about people who help us; what their body needs to be healthy; healthy teeth; digestion; what their skeleton is for and how to look after their own wellbeing – why not ask your child which of these areas they have been learning about!

As lockdown restrictions are beginning to ease, we are also beginning to be able to do more things with the children. Next week, Canada and USA classes will welcome a visitor from Morrisons to work with them outdoors planting seeds. In the next few weeks, Germany class will be visiting the park to work on our rather neglected flower bed and bring it back to life. Also, Years 2 to 6 will take part in skipping workshops in a few weeks' time. Look out for photos and information about these events in future newsletters. It is great that we are beginning to be able to offer these experiences to the children and I hope, as we move into next academic year, we will be able to start offering our range of extra-curricular activities and school trips again. Of course, this will all be dependent on the covid situation and Government guidance.

TD days 2020/2021

Friday 2nd July 2021

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May

Last day of Term 5: Friday 28th May

First day of Term 6: Monday 7th June

CONGRATULATIONS:

To the following children who have celebrated their birthday's during the last two weeks:

Owen, Ethan, Alfie, Max, Kalob, Jacob and Alex

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.

Drop off & pick up arrangements:

Thank you for all your support with our staggered drop off and pick up arrangements. As we are settling back into school, each gate is becoming smoother. Please make sure your child arrives at the correct time for their gate – not earlier, and not later.

If your child's gate is at the back of the school, please can you make sure your child waits with you and does not run or scoot around the staff cars. This is to make sure all children wait safely to enter school and no damage is accidentally caused to staff cars.

Social Media:

Thank you to those of you who have liked, followed or shared our Facebook or Twitter page. We have been posting information about what the children have been learning in school. If you haven't yet found, please have a look.

Just a reminder that the purpose of these pages is to promote our school in the wider community. We will continue to 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 If you think that you may qualify for Free School Meals please see the application form on our website.

Hot Dinners/Packed Lunches

The roll out of hot food is going well, we are now offering hot dinners to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as well as our benefit related free school meals children in Key Stage 2. In a couple of weeks, we aim to offer hot dinners to all children in school – we will email Key Stage 2 parents when you can order.

A gentle reminder that all meals must be ordered by the end of Wednesday in readiness for the following week. If you have any issues or questions regarding Wisepay, please do contact the office.

Packed lunches continue to be offered to any child in the school and need to be booked in advance through Wisepay, in the same way as hot food.

Children's Activities:

Our children have been producing some fantastic work since their return after half term.

Years 1 and 2 have been building bridges using materials found in the field after reading *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. We witnessed some fantastic teamwork from all the children in the session and it was a pleasure to see them working so hard together.



Children in our USA class have been learning about people who help us - real life superheroes!

They have been excited and engaged in a whole range of activities from listening to the story of Supertato to making their very own models with play dough.

They have talked about what makes someone a superhero and even all worked together to design a hero for their class-Super USA who has some very special powers!



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.

Safeguarding Update:

Please make sure you check the age restrictions of films and social media sites your child may access. We often have children talking about things they have accessed which are not age-appropriate. Children who access materials with 12, 15 or 18 age restrictions can see things that upset them and they find frightening. It is very easy for a child to access age inappropriate materials if the appropriate parental controls are not in place or children have unsupervised access to devices.

Parent & Pupil Support:

My name is Mrs Leeson and I am fortunate to work in such a diverse, pastoral role in Parent and Pupil Support. I thought it important to explain a little about my role and how I can best support you and your child.

Perhaps you have concerns in regards to behaviour, nutrition, attendance and parenting in general. Or you feel you need support with family learning, finances and applying for benefits, Free School Meals or require Early Help. I am here to offer impartial advice and signpost to a wealth of other agencies when needed.

Importantly, due to Warminster being a Military town, I also have a particular focus on supporting Armed Forces Families – so Please do make contact if your loved one is due to deploy on exercise or tour. Importantly, I understand that family life can be challenging and am here to support you whenever needed, be that with a one off question or more challenging situation. Please feel free to email me on eln@avenue.wilts.sch.uk or ring the main office to arrange a telephone appointment – 01985 213383



FREE CAT NEUTERING

RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch and Cats Protection Frome and District Branch

From now until 31st May 2021 **RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch** will be accepting applications from all cat owners living in **Devizes, Melksham, Warminster and Westbury or the surrounding villages** for help with the cost of neutering and, if done at the same time, micro-chipping, of their cats and kittens.

To apply for this service please send a blank e-mail to: rspcacp21@gmail.com

We will reply with a link to the on-line application form. If you prefer you can telephone 07748-468355 For more information please visit: www.rspca.org.uk/local/wiltshire-mid-branch/latest Working together to help you and your pets Wiltshire.

Because of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic some vets may not be able to undertake neutering at present so our vouchers will remain valid until 31st December 2021



Interested in trying Rugby?

Age 4 – 12



FREE Summer Fun Sessions



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