



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

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Newsletter 27th May 2022

A Message from Miss Thomas:

It's been a busy Term 5 here at The Avenue with covid now taking a backseat and school life feeling much more normal.

Last night I had the pleasure of joining our Year 4 children for dinner and their 'night-line' evening activity on their residential visit to Braeside. Everyone was in good spirits and thoroughly enjoying the experience. This is the first residential visit we have been able to run since the pandemic and one we hope Year 4 children will experience for years to come.

On Monday our Year 3/4 athletics team took part in an Acorn Tournament at Kingdown. Again, this is the first competitive tournament we have been able to take part in since the pandemic. The children were fantastic, showing our Avenue Core Values throughout, and well supported by Mrs Upton, Mrs Savva and their parents. We were delighted to hear that we finished in 1st place – well done Team Avenue!

Today, the whole school is dressed in red, white and blue and busily preparing for our Jubilee Celebrations this afternoon. Thank you to those of you who have sent in cakes – I am sure we will have a royal afternoon tea celebration this afternoon and a good end to the term.

Also this term our Year 6 and Year 2 children have taken their SATs tests. Children in both year groups approached their tests with positivity and resilience and we are very proud of them for this.

You may also have noticed that the builders have now left and our new Resource Base building is complete. During term 6, Resource Base will start to use this classroom in readiness for it being a class base for them from September. Once the grass within the fencing re-grows, we will also be able to have our field space back for the children to use.

I hope you all have a wonderful half-term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 6th June.

Staffing Update

This term we have welcomed several new members of staff to our staff team:

- Miss Moore has joined us as Finland Class teacher.
- Mr Grace has joined us as a teacher, teaching across the school.
- Mrs Purdue has returned from her secondment to another Acorn school and is now back with the Admin team.
- Mrs D'Arcy has joined our Resource Base team as a TA.
- Mr Nolan has begun working with us as he will be our SENCO while Miss Woffenden is on maternity leave.

Today we say goodbye to Miss Hackeson and Miss Woffenden as they both begin their maternity leaves. We wish them and their families all the best and look forward to welcoming them back in the future. To cover their absences:

- Mrs Featherstone will be working full time in Sweden class during Term 6
- Miss Challinor will be joining us as a teacher during Term 6 to cover Miss Hackeson's maternity leave
- As already mentioned, Mr Nolan will be our SENCO while Miss Woffenden is on maternity leave and will also oversee Resource Base during Term 6

Also, over half term, Miss Vaughan is getting married – congratulations to her. She will return as Mrs Heatley in Term 6.

Uniform

Next term, as we move into the warmer months, we would like to see all children in correct Uniform

This term, all children should be in correct uniform. This is:

Grey or black trousers/skirt/pinafore/shorts

White polo shirt

Royal blue jumper/cardigan (jumpers/cardigans with the school logo are available from scholars)

White/grey/black socks or tights

Black shoes (not boots and not trainers)

Blue and white summer dress

Please remember jewellery is not allowed in school other than stud earrings and a watch (no smart watches).

Nail varnish is also not permitted so please make sure your child removes any nail varnish before coming to school

PE Kit:

Children should be wearing correct PE kit on their PE day. This is:

White T-shirt – either plain white or a house T-shirt available from the school office

Black shorts

A dark coloured tracksuit

Plimsoles or trainers

If you are buying new school clothes over the break, please make sure it is correct uniform.

School Lunches

Bookings for school lunches for after May half term, W/C 6th June **are now closed**. If a meal has not been booked please provide a packed lunch. This will avoid a phone call being made to you early on Monday 6th June asking for a packed lunch to be brought in. Thank you for your support.

Attendance:

This year, Government expectations regarding attendance have returned to those in place prior to Covid-19. This means:

- All children are expected to attend school every day and should aim for 100% attendance
- Good attendance is regarded as 96% or above. This means a child would miss only 7 days across the year.
- When attendance drops below 90%, this is called 'persistent absence'. Research shows that children who are persistently absent achieve less well than others. If a child's attendance is 90% by the end of the academic year, they will have missed 19 school days. That is 1 month of school so it is not surprising that it affects their progress.

Here is a reminder of our procedures for attendance:

- Once a child's attendance falls below 93%, it is carefully monitored
- At the end of each term, a letter is sent to parents of children with attendance below 93%.
- If attendance drops below 90% a School Attendance Meeting (SAM) is called. In this meeting reasons for low attendance are discussed and targets to improve attendance are set.
- If there is no improvement after the SAM, a SAM Review meeting is held and after this meeting, a referral is usually made to the Education Welfare Officer (EWO)
- The EWO then looks at the case and takes appropriate action, this usually starts with a Local Authority Attendance Meeting (LAAM)
- If there is still no improvement, a fine may be issued

This year, many children have attendance below 90% as many children have needed time off due to having covid. Because of this, we are looking closely at the reason for absence and prioritising which children to follow up. Therefore, you may not yet have had a letter or been invited to a SAM if your child has low attendance.

Lego Club

In Lego Club the children have been getting involved with the Jubilee celebrations, Mrs Stainer and the children had a challenge to make the British Flag from Lego.

What a fabulous flag they have made – well done!



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.

Parent & Pupil Support:

Hello, I am the new Parent and Pupil Support at The Avenue and New Close sites. My name is Sophie, or Mrs Brown as the children know me.

My role within the school is to provide pastoral support for all of the children, and you, the families. For families this may come in the form of impartial knowledge or advice, or signposting to other agencies, which may have more specialist knowledge.

We have a strong presence of military families within the schools and having a military connection myself, I know that this can throw up unique challenges. Please let us know if any loved ones are due to deploy, on exercise, or on tour and if we can help to support you in any way.

I understand that life can have its ups and downs and am here to support you whenever needed, be that with a one off question or with a more challenging situation.

Please feel free to email me sbn@avenue.wilts.sch.uk or telephone the office to arrange a telephone appointment on 01985 213383.

Reporting Your Child as Absent:

Should your child be absent due to illness, we ask that you telephone the school first thing in the morning. Please avoid messaging teachers directly and call our dedicated message system on 01985 213383 for absences. This includes Canada and USA, our nursery classes.

Family and Community Learning:

Many courses and information can be obtained by following the links below:

Education and Skills

Wiltshire Council

T:01225 770478 | M: 07880 482807 | workwiltshire.co.uk/family-learning

Here is the link to our page on Right choice. <https://rightchoice.wiltshire.gov.uk/Page/10502>

General Information:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Last day of Term 5: 27th May 2022

First day of Term 6: 6th June 2022

Teacher Training Days: 1st July and 25th July 2022

Teacher Training Days for 2022/23:

Thursday 1st September 2022

Friday 2nd September 2022

Wednesday 19th October 2022

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Monday 24th July 2023

Tuesday 25th July 2023

FOWAS AND AET
PRESENTS:

TOUR D'ACORN 2022

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

126KM TOUR OF ALL 17
ACORN TRUST SCHOOLS
ACROSS WILTSHIRE

16 JULY 22

GRAND DEPART 8AM FROM
CLARENDON SCHOOL



'[JUSTGIVING.COM/FUNDRAISING/TOURDACORN2022](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tourdacorn2022)' OR SCAN QR CODE

PLEASE SUPPORT US BY SPONSORING THE TEAM. ALL DONATIONS
GO DIRECTLY TO PROJECTS BENEFITING TRUST CHILDREN




Families Connect
WITH ALICE PERRY



Badminton

- Level 2 Qualified Badminton Coach
- Qualified teacher since 2011
- Licenced Thrive Practitioner
 - First aid qualified
 - Enhanced DBS certificate
- Safeguarding and Protecting Children
- Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance
- Mum of two boys!

BADMINTON ENGLAND




Why choose a Families Connect Badminton Session?

I am passionate about families and building relationships between children and parents.

Families Connect Badminton sessions do just that! They are all about families coming together, having fun, being active and playful, learning about each other and strengthening bonds.

Play within your families, against others, practice your skills and receive coaching in a relaxed environment.

More information

- Bring your own rackets or borrow mine
- No experience necessary
- All badminton ability levels welcome

John of Gaunt sports hall
Sundays 10-11am
12th June, 19th June, 26th June
3rd July, 10th July, 17th July, 24th July

£10 per family for up to 4 people. £2 per additional family member

To book a place at a session please get in touch

Phone
07813 498854

E-mail
alice@families-connect.co.uk

 <https://www.facebook.com/FamiliesConnectUK>

#SWCrownsForAll
#SWLibrariesJubilee



Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee

in Wiltshire libraries

Join us for special children's activities

Warminster library
Monday 30 May
2.15pm

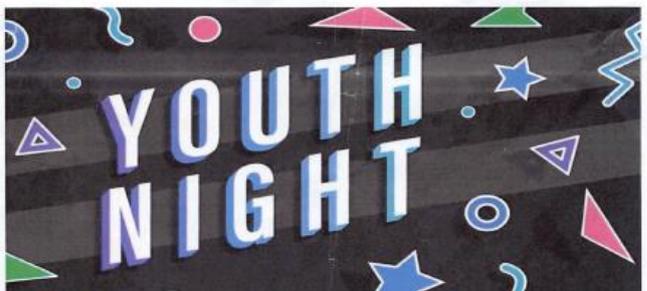
Drop in for Jubilee themed family fun, including colouring, crown making, activities, stories and songs and a library hunt.

Suitable for ages 3 - 10

01985 216022 or ask at the enquiry desk for more information

Please remember to supervise your children aged 8 and under whilst in the library



Pop Up Youth Event

Codford Village Hall and playing field:
Wednesday 8 June 2022, 6pm – 8pm

Age: Year 6 and above

Please book a place on this free event on Eventbrite, via:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pop-up-youth-event-tickets-337091859827

Scan the QR code with your phone:



or email: graeme.morrison@wiltshire.gov.uk

SCAN ME

Come along to hang out, eat pizza, burgers, and, if you like take part in some fun activities, including bubble football and cool craft

Event includes informal briefing for parents and volunteers from Community First staff, offering advice on how to get involved in youth activities in our rural communities.