



2013: Autumn 1

Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents/Carers and children,

Welcome back to you all! I am so impressed how well your children have settled into life at school again and to hear of their conversations at home about learning, science, music and our values. Great!

You would have noticed that we are looking for 2 new parent governors. Letters have been sent out explaining how to apply. If you would like any more information please do not hesitate to contact me. In our Autumn 1 term, our philosophy and ethics focus is Empathy. The word comes from the Greek word *empathēia* which means "in feeling" or "passion, state of emotion." But how does it translate into the reality at Avanti Court? Well, our expectations are that at the end of Year 2, Learners should confidently be able to:

- Talk about feelings and needs
- Think about how other people feel in different situations

We want them to have a rich vocabulary to describe how they feel, how others feel including 'real' people and those characters in the stories they read and the films they watch. Being empathic is such an important quality in life - to be able to connect with another human being by trying to understand what the world would 'look like' standing in their shoes, even at such an early stage in their life, is the step towards a more peaceful world. Utopian? Idealistic? Perhaps...but this is what we expect at Avanti Court...we want our young people to be the future leaders of change, the contributors, the connectors...the inspirers.

Having empathy starts with the realisation that there are other people in the world - simple and yet complex to achieve in reality. David Goleman, the popular psychologist and author of many books summed up how empathy can lead to action and shows what we (parents and teachers together) hope to achieve.

"Self-absorption in all its forms kills empathy, let alone compassion. When we focus on ourselves, our world contracts as our problems and preoccupations loom large. But when we focus on others, our world expands. Our own problems drift to the periphery of the mind and so seem smaller, and we increase our capacity for connection - or compassionate action." — Daniel Goleman, *Social Intelligence: The New Science of Human Relationships*

With warm wishes for a fantastic New Year, James Biddulph, Head Teacher

Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (1486-1535) is the most recent incarnation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna. He appeared 500 years ago in Navadvip, West-Bengal and started His worldwide Sankirtan mission of propagating the chanting of the holy name of the Lord (the process of self-realization for this age - to meditate upon the sound of the maha-mantra. His view was that the Divine is for everyone – an inclusive approach to spirituality which we value at our school.



Reading Volunteers Unite!

If you were a reading volunteer last year and would like to continue supporting the children in developing their reading, please contact Mrs Bana as soon as you can. Some training may be given for new volunteers.

Safeguarding Training is taking place 12th September from 8.30-9.30. If you want to be a volunteer you must attend this training.

Register in office

Welcome one and all!

Parent Learning

Check our facebook and website for details about these exciting parent learning opportunities.

Key Dates:

11th Sept: Year 1 & 2 Parent Curriculum meetings 5.30-6pm

16th Sept: Half day for Reception children 5.30-6pm

19th Sept: Reception Parent Curriculum Meeting

27th Sept: Reception classes set in formal groups

9th Oct: Eid Celebration

11th Oct.: INSET (No children)

28th Oct – 1st November: Half Term

4th Nov: Book Week (8th Nov: Dressing up as book character day!)

The People: Who's Who?

Edward Anobah: Chair of Governors
Junaida Bana: Deputy Head Teacher
James Biddulph: Head Teacher
Leanne Christian: Teacher
Kelly Collins: Assistant to HT, Receptionist/Lunches Money/Admin
Nadia Chowdhury: Teaching Assistant
Kam Dodia: Reception Teacher
Meenal Desmond: Teaching Assistant
Sabjit Dhami: Teaching Assistant
Esther Dudley: Reception Teacher
Trish Johnson: Office Manager, Pupil Data/Attendance/Admin
Sumeet Joshi: Site Keeper
Max Hinds: Teaching Assistant in Year 1
Dravit Koorichh: Associate Teacher on Schools Direct placement
Manisha Mistry: Reception Teacher RQT
Deepa Patel: Reception Teacher RQT
Harpreet Sahota: Reception Teacher
Neel Sataani: Teaching Assistant in Year 1
Amy Sivadasan: Year 1 Teacher & Middle Leader
Tulsi Kanbi: Year 1 Teacher NQT

&

hare krsna
hare krsna
krsna krsna
hare hare
hare rama
hare rama
rama rama
hare hare



New staff joining our Avanti Team – welcome to them all!

“The more we let God take us over, the more truly ourselves we become - because He made us. He invented us. He invented all the different people that you and I were intended to be. . .It is when I turn to Christ, when I give up myself to His personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own.” C.S.Lewis

