



AVANTI COURT
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Excellence Virtue Devotion



AVANTI COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Families,

Well, here we are already just over a week away from the end of Summer 2 and what a fantastic half term it has been for all at Avanti!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Shrestha for working so hard to achieve the Travel Plan Silver Award!

I would like to thank University Lecturer Mr Longworth from Plymouth University who visited our school on 24th May with students to view our provision.

I would like to thank Mrs Sivadasan who moderated other schools Year 2 assessments to ensure they were accurate and in line.

I would like to also thank Mr Koorichh who submitted a fantastic learning journal, depicting science learning at Avanti. Could this be another silver award for Avanti?

Thank you Mr Dutt and his family for working so hard to transform the entrance to our school with their beautiful array of flowers!

Thank you to: Bhasha Vadher and Suky Man for helping to transform our library into an environment which promotes reading for pleasure!

Thank you to Mrs Bana for supporting a school in Barking and Dagenham with their RE curriculum.

A gentle reminder that school ends on: **Wednesday 27th July at 1:30pm. All children return to school on: Friday 2nd September 2016.**

Regards,
Mrs Walters

VALUES...

"A gift is pure when it is given from the heart to the right person at the right time and at the right place, and when we expect nothing in return."

ANOTHER AWARD FOR AVANTI...

STARS – Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe – is an accreditation scheme for schools, nurseries and colleges to inspire young Londoners to travel sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely.

In doing this, STARS empowers pupils and improves the safety and wellbeing of the whole community. It also encourages active travel behaviour and improves the environment around the school.

I am delighted to announce that Avanti Court Primary School has successfully achieved the **silver award!**

Going for Silver

The silver award is the second level of the STARS programme. A silver level school demonstrates greater participation in active, sustainable and safer travel initiatives. Pupils are actively involved, leading on consultation and promoting their achievements to school staff, parents and members of the local community.

The award will be displayed shortly in the office reception. Very well done Mrs Shrestha and of course our pupils!



INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY!

Children and staff of Avanti Court Primary School took to the playground on 21st June 2016 to celebrate International Yoga Day. All children and staff took part in a series of postures led by Ms Ali.

Children from Nursery to Year four were calm and thoughtful as they performed a range of postures in the playground surrounded by nature. The looks of joy on the children's faces were matched by teachers as the school community worked together creating a sense of harmony and togetherness.

We believe that Yoga at Avanti Court Primary is crucial to our pupils because it teaches them how to take care of themselves and to learn how to be still-this helps pupils to listen attentively so they can make good decisions. Through yoga, pupils learn how to use their energy more effectively, which helps them feel relaxed, motivated and focused.



LOST PROPERTY...

A gentle reminder that any lost property will be placed in the lost property box outside classrooms. Please speak to your child's class teacher who will be more than happy to take you to the lost property box for your child's year. Please note that all lost property will be donated to charity if unclaimed by: 27.7.16.

LIFE AT AVANTI COURT...



PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

PARENT VIEW

Remember to add your views!

<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Please do come along to the Headteacher's Forum on: **Tuesday 26th July at 3:30pm** for an update on the actions resulting from the Parent Survey.

Please also tell us what we are doing well as this is really important!



DON'T STOP AND DROP!



Pupils at Avanti recently took to the streets urging parents not to 'Stop and Drop!' Year 4 pupils organised a weekly campaign to remind parents of the dangers of parking too close to the school.

Pupils stood outside the gates with banners warning against the dangers of parking by the entrance. Mrs Sanghera was very proud that her pupils took the lead on this initiative and noticed that parents when 'seeing and hearing' the children chanting decided to park elsewhere!

YEAR 4-ENTERPRISE!

On Friday 27th May, Gold class sold specially made drinks which cannot be found anywhere else in the world! This was linked to our topic, 'Young Entrepreneurs'. For our entry point, we visited Barkingside High Street, where the most popular shops were in the category of food and drinks.

In one lesson, we mixed different juices and then tasted them. At the end, each table voted for the drink they liked the best. We also came up with special names for our drinks and a catchy motto. When the day arrived, we put the drinks in the freezer so they would be chilled for the afternoon. Drinks were sold at 50p to entice customers to our stall. We had lots of parents and children visiting our stalls to buy our specially created drinks!

The most popular drink was a combination of cranberry, tropical and pineapple juice. We made a whopping one hundred and forty three pounds, as a class which is phenomenal! We did agree to give twenty four pounds to Mr Sharma, our Finance Manager, because he provided a loan to Gold Class to get our stalls going! Mrs Sanghera, our generous teacher said she will reward us with a special, appealing and refreshing ice-cream each in recognition of all our hard work. Our project was a huge success and a great way to end our topic!

Written by Nanditaa -Year 4

ATTENDANCE-WE MUST DO BETTER!

As a school we aim to achieve 97% attendance over the Summer term. Please ensure you child comes to school otherwise they lose valuable learning time.

As you are aware we are in **lowest 10% of schools nationally for attendance**-this is not where we want to be as a school. Ofsted will not give the school a good grading unless we improve attendance.

Whole School attendance:

Week of 16th May - 96.9% **Below the national target- Nearly there!**

Week of 23rd May -96.0% **Below the national target**

Week of 6th June -95.9% **Below the national target**

Week of 13th June -96.7% **Below the national target-Nearly there!**

Week of 20th June -95.6% **Below the national target**

Week of 27th June- 95.9% **Below the national target-Nearly there!**

The attendance for each year group for the summer term so far from **September-June** is:

Reception	90.2%	Below the national Target
Year 1	94.6%	Above the national Target
Year 2	94.4%	Below the national Target
Year 3	94.9%	Below the national Target
Year 4	98.2%	Above the national Target

PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY VISIT AVANTI...

On 24th May a group of seven 2nd year trainee teachers from Plymouth University visited Avanti as part of a 3 day visit to London. The aim of the trip was to give students a range of experiences in relation to the diversity of faith, culture and educational models as they could hope to experience in the capital.

Students were warmly welcomed as they toured the school before joining in with the morning act of collective worship - an experience that all enjoyed and took inspiration from. This was followed by observations of morning lessons before lunch was shared with the children and staff. Afternoon lessons were observed in different classes before an enjoyable and stimulating discussion with school staff on the journey of Avanti Court, faith schools and employment and practicalities of working in the borough.

The students were engaged and enthusiastic about life in your school, and for some this was a day that gave them new knowledge and experiences. Now decisions need to be made about their future study and career. The students have the option to take a teaching placement in Redbridge during their 3rd year, and for some, after the day spent in your school, this now seems a great opportunity. Students also visited London Central Mosque, Neesden Hindu Mandir, St. Paul's Cathedral for evensong, Chinatown, a west end show and The British Museum. The school visit was the highlight of the trip - thank you for making us all so welcome.

Written by: University Lecturer Mr Longworth



AVANTI AUTHORS...

Thank you so much Sonakshi, our resident pupil author who kindly wrote an article on her trip to Chinatown!

Have you ever felt as if you would like to experience the Chinese culture, but have been put out off by the magnitude of the sheer distance from home? Then take a trip to Chinatown!

Our first stop was one of London's major tourist attractions, there were truckloads of tourists taking photographs. There was a carnival atmosphere, flags and large Chinese lanterns decorated the streets and there were various landmarks, such as big gates with Chinese carvings. My favourite one was the Chinese temple (Pagoda) shaped like a hut covered in pictures depicting different Chinese stories and morals!

The area boasts over 80 restaurants, 53 shops and 12 bars. The first thing you notice is the aroma of Chinese traditional dishes. Not much on offer for vegetarians (like me), but still we found a very nice little tea shop where we had some delicious coconut buns and Chinese tea. Refreshing!

OLYMPIC FEVER!

On Tuesday 7th June, Year 3 had a visit from two Olympic coaches, Jane and Shannon. The session was filled with mini-Olympic activities. They helped us improve our aim when throwing balls at a target and we timed how many jumps we could do in 20 seconds and recorded our personal best. I managed 31, which is brilliant!

After being shown an actual relay baton from the 2012 Olympics, we competed in a thrilling relay race. The highlight of the day was seeing an ACTUAL Olympic torch. Did you know the Olympic Torch has 8000 little holes in it? Each one hole symbolises a person who has carried it!

By Diya- Year 3 Pupil

Channon and Jane, two coaches who led the Olympic sessions and said: 'Thank you so much for the feedback from your pupils. We are so pleased to hear that they all enjoyed the session and came away inspired and learnt about the Olympics through the experience. Both Channon and I really enjoyed meeting you all and we both felt that the children were enthusiastic as well as being very bright year 3's. We would love to return to your school in the very near future.



LIFE AT AVANTI...

Music at Avanti...

Thank you very much to Mr Walcott a private music instructor who teaches piano at Avanti for arranging an afternoon of music to be held on: 14.7.16 at 2:00pm at Avanti.

Mr Walcott frequently informs



me of the progress the pupils are making and how much they are enjoying their lessons!

Thank you Harit class for letting me observe your music lesson! It was great to see pupils playing a range of percussive instruments with such flair!



**WE ARE
PROUD OF
AVANTI
BECAUSE...**



We are driving standards of numeracy and literacy! Awarded to Avanti 2016.



We achieved the silver Travel Award 2016!



Top Safety Mark Award for Health and Safety 2016!



Silver PSQM-Will we be awarded the silver award for science 2016? Watch this space!

BIKER'S BREAKFAST

Mrs Shrestha led a number of Biker's Breakfasts recently to encourage pupils to bike to school! Paven in Year 4 said: ' I rode my bike all the way from Newbury Park! I felt a little tired but I enjoyed it so much. Normally, I come to school by train but I would recommend riding a bike as it great fun!'



FROM SANJAY PATEL-SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Governors' corner - budget process

Hello, as part of Avanti Court Governors trying to give parents further insight it to the workings and responsibilities of the governing body (GB) we thought we would share with you how the budget process works.

Every year the school needs to prepare and have this approved for the coming year. As an academy the year now runs from September to August, where as when we were under local authority reporting this ran from April to March.

The budget effectively revolves around two main factors, how much money will the school get and where is best used. The process is started of by the school under the framework provided by the Avanti Schools Trust (AST).

How much money will the school get?

This is largely determined by the Education funding Authority (EFA) who will supply us with the information of how much they will give us over the coming year and involves considerations such as projected pupil numbers, how many students have English is an additional language plus other factors. Other sources of income include nursery income which is still obtained from our local authority and income from lunches.

The school and GB also look at obtaining funds through grants and awards on going basis but these are not factored into the budget because it is not certain we will get such funds during the budget process.

Where are the funds best used?

As a growing school currently we know at present we need to open 4 new classes next year, so extra teachers and teaching assistants needs to be factored in, coupled to this is looking at the overall staff structure and changes that may be needed for the additional 120 children expected to start in September.

Other costs will also be reviewed in light of how much is being spent on them currently together with areas that need changes in resources and other requirements that have developed or will develop over the coming year.

Of course as a prudent measure we keep some funds for contingency purposes.

Review and challenge process

The budget is bought to the Finance and Premises Committee for review/challenge and approval. This year we discussed it in two separate meetings, firstly looking at the additional staff recruitment in terms of why and the costs. Then second time we reviewed the whole budget. The budget is compared to the current year projected spend in order to see it makes sense, what areas are going and why. Questions and issues discussed with supporting information requested where required.

Once approved the budget is taken to the GB meeting for approval where once again there is opportunity for all GB members to review and challenge the budget. After approval is taken to AST for approval and incorporation into the AST's budget which is submitted to the EFA.

AST are involved in the process throughout the cycle.

What happens after?

However the work does not stop there, the school produces monthly accounts to show actual spend and comparing it to budget which is sent to AST, Finance and Premises Committee. Updates will be given to GB as and when required.

STAYING SAFE DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS...

If you go to stay with friends or relatives, their home or garden might not be as child-friendly as your home. Children like to explore new surroundings, so make sure they don't go far on their own. Make sure you also check features such as ponds, barbecues and garden tools.

A few simple steps, such as nominating an adult to watch the children at a party, can reduce the risks.

Remember these safety tips if you and your family are visiting an area where there is water:

Go for a walk around the pool, beach, lake or river, looking for any hazards and where the emergency equipment is. Ask if there is a lifeguard on duty and read the water safety information signs at the beach. Consider taking a short (one or two-hour) course in first aid and the key things to know in an emergency.

BORROW A BIKE SCHEME!

As part of the school's incentive to encourage pupils to come to school by bike Mrs Shrestha arranged for the school to purchase a number of bikes for pupils to borrow.



PARENT SURVEY-WHAT YOU WANTED AND WHAT WE HAVE DONE AS A RESULT...

You asked for more information regarding the work of Governors and as a result recent newsletters have informed you of Governor visits to the school. Governor updates will be a regular feature of the monthly newsletter so you are up to date of their impact.

You wanted to know if all bullying allegations/incidents were recorded. I can inform you that all bullying allegations/ concerns are recorded formally as a school and the Governing Body is informed of the school's actions and the outcome of our investigations on a termly basis. In fact the Governing Body received a report on bullying allegations on Monday July 4th where we shared how we record and report allegations. Please ask us if you would like to see our recording format.

As parents, a number of you felt that you did not know enough about how well your children are doing in school. A full report will be sent home shortly celebrating your child's achievements over the last academic year. However, we operate an open door policy and you are free to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher to discuss their progress or to view your child's books at any time. **All you have to do is ask.** There will also be an opportunity to view your child's books on: **Thursday 14th July from 2:30pm.** Please also visit the school hall at 2:00pm for a glimpse of the musical achievements of some of our pupils!

You were concerned that the surface of the playgrounds are inadequate. As a school we did try to receive additional funding for this but our playgrounds are not seen as critical. The playgrounds are on the school's action plan for improvement. However, both playgrounds will be given a new look for September 2016 through playground markings-watch this space!

The EYFS outside area has also been given a transformation with the addition of a digging area to encourage pupil's to plant flowers and herbs!

Please attend the Headteacher's forum on: **Tuesday 26th July at 3:30pm** for a further update on the actions resulting from the Parent Survey.

VALUES...



GRATITUDE...

I was really impressed to read Ria's account of why gratitude is so important, so I thought I would share it with you!

I could show gratitude by cooking breakfast for my family and let my parents watch TV. When I show gratitude I feel as happy as Krishna's broad smile! To show gratitude to my gurus I try not to make bad choices and do the best I can. The reason why we should all show gratitude is to thank others.

You should not do something for someone and expect a gift in return because gratitude is not a trade.

Written by Ria in Green Class



THE BOUNCIEST DAY EVER!

Aanya in Year 3 wrote a lovely letter to me expressing her gratitude for the bouncy castle, which the school rewards children with for 100% attendance! Aanya wrote: 'I would like to thank you for the bouncy castle. You were right it was the best day of my life! I am so glad that my parents put me in such a loyal, respectful school. I would like to thank Mrs Sanghera for making it possible. Without Mrs Sanghera all the children who put in a plethora of effort to get to school on time would not get the reward they deserve!'





RATHA YATRA

To celebrate the Ratha Yatra Festival this year Avanti Court Primary School led a procession following the chariot accompanied by singing and the playing of musical instruments along the streets of Barkingside. Parent volunteers and the Safer Neighborhood Team supported classes as they moved safely along Craven Gardens.

The parade ended with a special assembly about the significance of the festival to children, parents and the community. A huge thank you to Mrs Hirani who coordinated the whole event and to our Year 1 pupils who put on a stunning performance.

Darpana Tank said: “ I stayed for the assembly afterwards and it was very special indeed, with beautiful performances by children in the form of a play by year 1 and a bharatnatyam dance. The whole school sang a melodious song written by Mrs Hirani and music was composed and produced by Mr Walcott. There was lots of love and joy in the room. It was a wonderful assembly!”

MP Wes Streeting took part in leading the chariot and thanked the school for the opportunity to take part in the festivities.

Sanjay Patel said: ‘Just a quick note to say how magnificent the Ratha Yatra was, well done to all those involved in organising and taking part in the event. Also thank you for allowing me to pull the chariot.



EID!

Thank you to Verdi class who led our Eid celebrations on: Monday 11th July 2016. Through acting, dancing and singing pupils shared the importance of Eid to parents, staff and pupils. A huge thank you to Miss Janab and Year 2 staff and pupils for making the morning assembly so, so special!

Alena in Verdi class said: ‘I really, really, really loved learning all about Eid! I did not know much about it before, but now I know that Eid marks the end of Ramadan. I loved learning about being kind, helpful, respectful and grateful.’

