



AVANTI COURT
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Excellence Virtue Devotion



AVANTI COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians,
It is very hard to believe that this will be the last newsletter I write as my time at Avanti Court is coming to an end. It is a joy to hand over the reins to Mrs Walters, our new Headteacher who will be joining the school after the Easter break. It is quite fortuitous that our value this month is Integrity as the friendship element is one which I have felt strongly at Avanti Court. My thanks to the staff, to you, the governors and most importantly, the children, for making me so welcomed. Avanti Court will stay in my heart as a place of spiritual calm and educational excellence. I would love to come back and visit in the future. Farewell to all, but for now there is still a great deal to do before the end of term. Upwards and onwards dear friends.
Liz Whincop



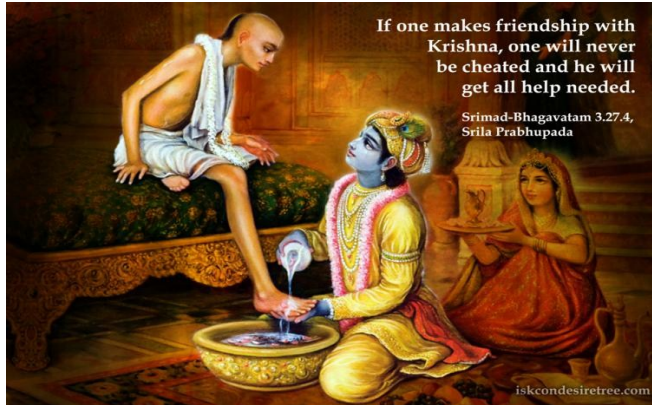
COMIC RELIEF DAY

We will be raising money for Comic Relief this year. On Friday 13th March children can donate £1.00 (or more!) to make their face funny. You will be sent a letter next week giving more information. Children will still wear school uniform but can add anything to their face or hair! Let's aim to raise at least **£300!**



OUR VALUE THIS HALF TERM INTEGRITY

This month our work on this value will mean looking at honesty and friendship with our children.



EVERY DAY MATTERS EVERY MINUTE COUNTS FEBRUARY - 93.5%

I am pleased to see that attendance continues to improve. Unfortunately we have a number of families who now fall into the "Persistent Absentees" category with attendance regularly below 85%. This may mean our Educational Welfare Officer will get involved with the families. Please make sure your children attend school every day and arrive on time at 8.25 for 8.30am. Thank you.

DATES FOR MARCH 2015

- 23.2.15 Spelling Bee Project begins.
- 27.2.15 Masquerade Disco (FOAC).
- 2.3.15 - 6.3.15 Gaura Purnima Week**
- 2.3.15 Theatre workshops on Lord Chaitanya for Gaura Purnima.
- 3.3.15 Year 1 - local visit to Barkingside.
- 5.3.15 World Book Day.
- 5.3.15 LB Redbridge School Improvement Officer visiting Avanti Court School.
- 6.3.15 Lord Chaitanya Day.
- 6.3.15 Holi celebrations.
- 9.3.15 -13.3.15 Shakespeare Week**
- 13.3.15 Year 3(Purple) assembly at 2.30pm
- 13.3.15 Comic Relief Day
- 17.3.15 Y3 at the Science Museum
- 19.3.15 Parents' Open Forum at 8.30-40am
- 21.3.15 Pamper Event (FOAC)
- 25.3.15 FOAC FORUM 6.00pm
- 26.3.15 Mrs Walters visiting Avanti Court. "Meet the Head" at 6.00pm.**
- 27.3.15 Mid Term Children's progress reports sent out to parents
- 31.3.15 Parent Consultations 3.00-6.00pm
- 1.4.15 Parent Consultations 3.00-6.00pm
- 2.4.15 School closes at 1.30pm



TERM DATES 2015-6

I am pleased to say that the term dates for 2015-2016 have been set. They will be sent to you and posted on the school website soon as they have been ratified by the Governing Body. We can confirm that there will be a two week half term break in October as with other Avanti Schools.

PAUL MOSS - AVANTI TRUST DIRECTOR

We were delighted to welcome Paul Moss to our school last month. Paul is one of the Directors of the Avanti School's Trust who have overall responsibility for our school. He was impressed with the excellent behaviour and positive attitudes of the children and the good work the school is doing.

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015

AVANTI COURT GALLERY



HAPPY CHILDREN AT AVANTI COURT SCHOOL



ART WORK WHICH WILL ADORN THE ANTENATAL UNIT OF KING GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.



YEAR 2 LED ASSEMBLY ON SRI CHAITANYA AND HIS BROTHER SRI NITYANANDI.

I WISH I KNEW.....ABOUT CHILDREN'S REPORTS TO PARENTS.

It is a statutory requirement that schools report to parent on pupil progress, achievement and attendance once a year. This usually comes in the form of parent consultation evening and end of year written reports.

At Avanti Court school parents are given the opportunity of not only three consultation evenings, but *two* written reports.

This month you will receive a written mid term report which gives a summary of progress and effort with targets for the rest of the year. At the end of the summer term parents will receive a more detailed and comprehensive report with results of statutory tests at the end of KS1.

We hope you find these reports useful and recognise that the school actually provides more information than the vast majority of schools who only provide one written report.

GOVERNOR'S NEWS

Dear Parent/Guardian,
I'm delighted to inform you that Deborah Walters has been chosen as the new headteacher of our school. Following a rigorous selection process, the interview panel chose Deborah having been convinced that she has what it takes to successfully lead our school.

She has worked in education in the borough throughout her working career and has a broad range of skills that I'm sure will serve her well when she takes on the reins of Avanti Court.

Mrs Walters will be taking up her position at our school at the start of the new term.

Kind regards,
Edward Anobah
Chair of Governors

PREMISES NEWS

I hope you have noticed the small improvements we have started making to the school environment:

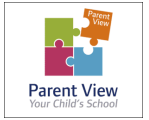
- New electronic gates making entry to the school safer.
- New school signage with safety warnings.
- The FOAC bench in the front garden which will be followed with other garden improvements.

Our thanks to Yogesh Sharma, our school Finance Manager, who is instrumental in facilitating these improvements. He and Darren Southam, our Site Manager are in the process of managing the development of the four new classes which are due to open in September. As the school expands to a 3-11 four form entry primary school with 840 children (plus 52 Nursery places) their work and management will be invaluable.

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

PARENT VIEW

Remember to add your views!
<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>



QUESTIONNAIRES

Our thanks to all the parents and children who completed the questionnaires that went out last month. I am afraid that the return was quite low. Nevertheless we will analyse the returns and let you know the outcome in the next newsletter.

The common themes will be highlighted and added to our School Development Plan, they will also be the discussion points for the monthly Open Forums.

OPEN FORUM

The next Open Forum for Parents will take place on THURSDAY 19TH MARCH at 8.40. We had a successful and informative meeting last month. At least 20 parents attended and were able to raise some pertinent issues.

The minutes of the meeting will be sent to all parents via Parentmail. If you would like a hardcopy please ask for one at the school office.

PARENTAL SUPPORT FOR ACPS RBS AND ICT

We were delighted recently when one of our parents, Mr Oza, who works for RBS, offered a tremendous package of ICT software, hardware and training for our staff through his company. This free donation will give a great boost to our Computing provision and curriculum. More information on this project will follow.

If you work for a company who can provide some charitable support for the school we would gladly welcome their involvement.

FRIENDS' OF AVANTI COURT (FOAC) . FOAC FORUM

FOAC will be holding their half termly meeting for ALL parents on **Tuesday 10th March at 8.30am**. All parents are welcomed.

There will be an update on the current FOAC Finances and an opportunity to review the plan, set last term, on how the money is going to be spent.

Unfortunately the FOAC Forum for 27th February had to be postponed as it was at the same time as the preparations for the Masquerade Disco.

The next FOAC FORUM will be on **Wednesday 25th March at 6.00pm**.

EMAIL ADDRESS

FOAC now have their own email address which means you can contact the committee directly. The address is...

foac@avanti.org.uk

MASQUERADE DISCO

Our thanks to all the parents and staff involved in making the Masquerade Disco a great success. The children had a great time! The money raised will be verified and announced via Parentmail. Huge thanks for all donations for this event!

MOTHER'S DAY PAMPER SATURDAY

The team are busy planning the Pamper/ Indulgence Saturday event due to take place on Saturday 21st March. More information on this event will follow!



BE HEALTHY AND STAY SAFE E SAFETY

Last month the teacher spoke to the children about eSafety and Mrs Bana ran an eSafety information session for parents. If you would like more information on how to keep your children safe when using the internet please visit <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>.

THIS WAS POSTED IN THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER BUT NEEDS TO BE REPOSTED :

PARENTS IN THE PLAYGROUND. Please could we remind parents that they should keep an eye on their children when collecting and dropping them off. Children could easily lose sight of you and get upset, or have an accident. Thank you.

BRINGING FOOD TO SCHOOL

Please could I remind parents that if they wish to share food with children at school ,for example as birthday treats, **the food must be egg free** and in keeping with our school policy. We would suggest you check with the class teacher before bringing food in to school. Thank you.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION HELPING WITH SPELLINGS

Here are 5 simple steps for parents to use to help their child with spellings.

Tip 1: Look at the pattern-encourage your child to study the pattern of letters.

Tip 2: Break it down- break longer words down into syllables.

Tip 3: Say it out loud-try the 'look, say, cover, write and check' technique

Tip 4: Alphabet time: arrange 3 words into alphabetical order. To this they need to study the letter arrangements in the word correctly. E.g. apple, banana, carrot etc.

Tip 5: Make it fun-a child who's having fun will be a happier learner.

Children will be bringing spellings home on a regular basis as they move up through the school. Please use the suggestions above help them learn their spellings. Perhaps you can also discuss spellings when you are reading with them too. Please remember the best way to learn to spell is to READ!

Mrs Sivadasan—English Subject Leader.



AVANTI COURT GALLERY



BOYS AND GIRLS LEARN TO COOK AT AVANTI COURT



CHINESE NEW YEAR DRAGON!



**LEARNING IN THE SNOW
BACK IN FEBRUARY!**

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT ART WORK FOR THE KING GEORGES ANTENATAL UNIT.

We are delighted to share the news that our children's art work has been chosen to hang in the new Antenatal Unit of King George's Hospital in Goodmayes.

Our thanks to Miss Sahota, our Creative Arts Subject leader, who organised the project. The hospital have invited Miss Sahota and a few children to attend the official opening of the unit later this month. The children attending will be chosen randomly. Well done to all the children who worked collaboratively on this art project.

CURRICULUM NEWS MARKING POLICY

We are always looking at ways we can improve our Teaching and Learning at Avanti Court. As part of this the teachers have recently updated the marking policy to ensure children are given next steps advice on how to improve their work. The Marking Code which is used in school has been included in this newsletter for your information.

HOME LEARNING

Home Learning was discussed at length at the recent Open Forum with Parents. The school provides some excellent home learning projects and regular work, but it is clear that the system needs to be reviewed to ensure continuity, consistency and progression.

CURRICULUM EVENTS

We are constantly looking at ways to provide a curriculum which is excellent ,relevant, broad, balanced and above all enjoyable! This month we have two focus weeks and an inspiring book event to give reading a boost.

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 5th March children can come to school dressed as book characters. We will spend the day reading, studying and enjoying books...don't worry we will do Maths too!

P.R.E. CURRICULUM FOCUS WEEK

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics are taught throughout the school on a weekly basis. During PRE Week we will focus on Guara Purnima, a celebration of the life of Lord Chaitanya. We have a drama, music and dance group coming in to launch the week. The PRE week will end with a celebration for HOLI! Lots of learning and lots of fun!

SHAKESPEARE CURRICULUM FOCUS WEEK

Shakespeare Week has become a tradition at Avanti Court! Every year the children study different plays of William Shakespeare. This year Years 2 and 3 will study the Tempest and Years 1 and Reception will study a Midsummer Nights Dream. There will be plenty of art, drama, music, writing and learning taking place. We have workshops arranged for the children too. **These should be great weeks!**

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

A parent recently asked for information regarding the themes for our collective worship and school assemblies. I thought it would be useful for all parents to know what the school plan looks like for this half term. Every day the assemblies are linked to the Value for the half term. This half term the value is **INTEGRITY.**

23.2.15

INTEGRITY—HONESTY AND FRIENDSHIP

2.3.15

GUARA PURNIMA / HOLI

9.3.15

SHAKESPEARE / INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

16.3.15

MOTHER'S DAY

23.3.16

SPRING FESTIVALS / WORLD POETRY DAY

30.3.15

EASTER / LORD RAMA'S APPEARANCE DAY

AVANTI COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Email
avanticourt@avanti.org.uk

REMINDERS

- **PARENTMAIL.** I am glad to see that this is proving to be a useful communication tool for home/school links. If you haven't registered yet, please do so!
- **CHANGE OF PERSONAL DETAILS.** It is vital that you inform the school if there are any changes to your personal details (address, telephone number email address, medical details of your child). Thank you.
- **NURSERY ATTENDANCE.** Please remember that attendance in the nursery is as important as it is in the rest of the school. While the places are non statutory we offer the places for children to attend **every day** either in the morning or the afternoon.
- **MEDICATION.** Please do not send in medication with your children in their school bags for them to take themselves. Only under special circumstances will the school administer any medication, therefore please see the office staff if you would like some support. We will ask you to complete the authorisation form before any prescription medication can be given.

DATES FOR 2015

Spring Term 2015

5h January.— 2nd April
HALF TERM

16th-20th February

Summer Term 2015

20th April-24th July

HALF TERM

25th-29th May

School closed on 25th

May for Bank Holiday

Autumn Term 2015

Wed. 2nd September–

Friday 18th December

Please note that the
Autumn Term dates are
provisional.

PE AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS MONTH



Our thank to James Eaton, our Sports Leader from J and C Academy Coaches, for identifying the following children for a special mention which regard to PE/Sports work this month.

Purple Reva Rasal
Zielony Anya Sattani
Green Shormista Das
Harit Jenika Mudhar
Verdi Mayur Pandya

Well done children!



AN EVENING AT AVANTI COURT

Avanti Court is launching a new series of events based around the wisdom and lessons from the Bhagavad Gita and how we can apply them in our day to day activities for a fulfilling, happy life. These sessions are open to anyone from any background and provide universal spiritual principles grounded in the philosophical masterpiece known as the Bhagavad Gita.

When: Friday 13th March 2015 at 7.00pm

Where: Avanti Court School,
Carlton Drive, Barkingside, IG6 1LZ

Who: It will be a family friendly event, for anyone interested in learning some wisdom from the Bhagavad Gita.

What: Interactive Seminar, Kirtan (Mantra Meditation), Meet new people from the community and a free vegetarian meal.



HAPPY EASTER

We would like to wish all our Christian families a very Happy Easter.



FUNDING FOR SCHOOL TRIPS

Over the next term we will be organising some exciting trips for our children, including a whole school visit to the wonderful **Bhaktivedanta Manor**, in Watford. On some occasions we may ask parents for a voluntary contribution to fund the cost of coaches so that we do not have to use public transport This will only happen where the venue is too far to use public transport. We hope that you will support these trips financially or they may not take place. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

If you could spare even an hour or so a week we would urge you to volunteer to help supporting learning at Avanti Court. We have some tremendous volunteers at the moment, who support all aspects of learning at the school. We appreciate their commitment and hard work. If you would like to volunteer and commit to at least one term of regular support we would really appreciate it. A DBS check would be made on your behalf.

READ! READ! READ! FULLWELL CROSS LIBRARY

We cannot stress strongly enough the importance of joining your local library. Your children can borrow up to 11 books each time they visit the library....and it is all FREE! These are just some of the events available at the library:

- Rhymes and Songs (Under 5s):
Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 am-10.30 am
- Chatterbooks (6-12):
First and third Wednesday of every month, 4.30 pm-5.30 pm
- Reading Buddies Club (5-12 years):
Saturdays, 2 pm-3 pm
- Homework Help Club (7-13 years):
Saturdays, 11 am-3 pm
- Games Club (7-13 years):
Fridays, 4.30 pm-5.30 pm
- Chess Club (7-13 years):
Tuesdays, 4.30 pm-5.30 pm

Just pop into the library and ask how your children can become members!

