



AVANTI COURT
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Excellence Virtue Devotion



AVANTI COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Families,

Well, here we are already a week away from the end of Summer 1 and what a fantastic half term it has been for all at Avanti!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Sanghera and the staff of Avanti for working so hard to achieve the Basic Skills Award for English and Maths!

I would like to thank all the staff in Year 2 who have worked so hard to prepare Year 2 pupils for their SATs.

I would like to thank Mad Science who delivered wonderful interactive workshops for Science week.

I would like to also thank Mr Koo-richh who led science week across the school.

Thank you to Mrs Hirani and Mrs Makwana who are supporting the Trust to write the PRE policy.

Thank you to Tim, our wonderful drumming teacher who wowed the whole school with the talents of his drumming pupils.

Thank you Mr Dutt for supporting pupils with their learning in the garden area of the school, as part of science week.

Thank you to our parents for helping with Year 3 displays-they look lovely!

Thank you to Mrs Tank, our parent Governor who supported the school to monitor the impact of feedback and marking on standards.

A gentle reminder that school ends on: **Friday 27th May at 3:10pm** and children return to school on: **Monday 6th June 2016.**

VALUES...

Be a good human being, a warm-hearted affectionate person. That is my fundamental belief. Having a sense of caring, a feeling of compassion will bring happiness of peace of mind to oneself and automatically create a **positive atmosphere**. A quote written by: HH Dalai Lama



TRAVEL PLAN –SILVER AWARD COMING SOON...

I am delighted to inform you that Avanti Court will be submitting evidence shortly for the: **Travel Plan-Silver Award!**

Mrs Shrestha has arranged a biker's breakfast for those pupils who come to school riding a bike and badges will be given out to pupils on Walk to School Wednesdays!

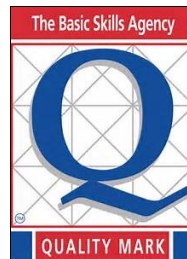
Mrs Shrestha is busy compiling a travel plan for the school. The aim of the plan is to encourage pupils (and their parents) to travel to school in a more active or sustainable way to help reduce the congestion caused by short (single occupancy car trips) on the 'school run'.

The benefits include health and wellbeing improvements, and a positive impact on air quality. Research also clearly links active travel to school with improved academic achievement.

Dates for the Bikers Breakfast are from 8am-8:30am on:

19th May Year 4 pupils
25th May Year 3 pupils
9th June Year 2 pupils
16th June Year 1 pupils

ANOTHER AWARD FOR AVANTI..



The basic skills Quality Mark is an award that celebrates and supports continuous improvement in literacy and numeracy.

It is awarded to a setting or school to recognise their provision, practice and performance in literacy and numeracy, and is valid for three years.

A school or setting must demonstrate a whole school approach to improving standards in literacy and numeracy, with evidence of the impact of its approaches.

I am proud to tell you that Avanti Court Primary School was recently awarded the quality mark for our continuous drive to raise standards in literacy and numeracy.

Mrs Sanghera took the lead in gathering together evidence of our drive to improve literacy and numeracy, which she presented to two advisors, one from the Local Authority who painstakingly looked through our documentation and agreed that as a school we were raising standards in both numeracy and literacy. Well done Avanti!

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.

REMINDER...

If your child is absent from school please inform the school office before 9:30am, so we can account for all pupils. Please provide your child's teacher with a letter when your child returns to school informing us in writing the dates and reason for absence.

SCIENCE WEEK AT AVANTI COURT...



£500,000 AWARDED TO AVANTI FOR OUR 2016 BUILDING PROJECT!

I am delighted to inform you that Avanti Court Primary was recently awarded five hundred thousand pounds to further develop the school, which is a fantastic achievement since converting to an academy in December 2015.

The Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) is capital funding that **academies** can apply for each year. The CIF's core priority is supporting condition projects and keeping academy buildings safe and in good working order.

The award will be used to renovate eight classrooms in the Dennis Wing all ready for four new classes in September! A new staff room will be erected where the current mobile is positioned and there will be covered walkways from the Dennis Wing to the main building. Thank you Mr Sharma for all your hard work in securing the funding!

BRITISH VALUES

Pupils at Avanti Court Primary School hoped the wind would carry their voices all the way to Windsor Castle as they sang Happy Birthday in honour of Her Royal Highness. It was a wonderful way to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II 90th birthday.

Reception pupil Shruti Sharma aged 5, said: "It was wonderful to celebrate our royal Queen's birthday, I hope she reaches up from her balcony to catch her special balloons."

Mr De La Fuente Said: "It was a very exciting moment as the balloons floated high into the sky, I think the Queen will be delighted to know that Avanti Court Primary School is thinking of her."

Faces of staff and children watched in wonder as the balloons soared high into the sky!

Each balloon carried a very special message from Avanti Court!



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 11th April - 15 th April	- 96.43 %	Below the national target
Week of 18th April - 22 nd April	- 96.09%	Below the national target
Week of 25th April - 29 th April	- 95.37%	Below the national target
Week of 3 rd May - 6 th May	- 95.38%	Below the national target
Week of 9th May - 13 th May	- 95.14%	Below the national target

The attendance for each year group for the summer term so far 11th April – 16th May:

Nursery	Mayur am	94.41%	Peacock pm	- 90.65 %	Below the national target
Reception		94.26 %			Below the national Target
Year 1		97.20 %			Above the national Target
Year 2		95.81 %			Below the national Target
Year 3		95.19 %			Below the national Target
Year 4		98.07%			Above the national Target

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: **Wednesday 26th May 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!



EDUCATIONAL VISITS– A PARENT’S PERSPECTIVE...

Year 3 recently went on a trip to a Chocolate Museum in Brixton. Divija’s Mum was a parent helper on the day and said: ‘I would like to share my beautiful experience of accompanying the Year 3 children to the museum. I must say that all the children behaved nicely and were very excited to be making their own chocolate! I was really surprised with the amount of knowledge about chocolate making that the children already had and they were able to answer a range of questions asked by the lead in charge of the workshop.

The London Underground staff were very helpful throughout the journey, which was also very impressive. Overall, I felt the trip went very smoothly and I would like to express my thanks to the class teacher and staff.’

Miss Claire, who also supported on the Year 3 trip said: ‘ The trip was well managed and all the children were safe to and from school. I was really impressed with London Transport staff who held the train at the platform until all the children were on board.’

Mrs Vijayanand said: ‘ The chocolate museum was really small but very well organised. Children had the opportunity to make chocolate. I was impressed with the open ended questioning from staff who were very knowledgeable about the topic.’

AVANTI AUTHORS...

Thank you so much Sonakshi, our resident pupil author who kindly wrote a poem for this month’s newsletter– If you would like your child to contribute to the newsletter please do contact the school office.

I wanted you to know
That I am grateful for your hard work
In helping me grow
For your constant understanding and for
Always being there when I need help and support
You guide me through my thoughts, share my achievements
And advise me on my faults
You bring out the best in me
With each lesson you teach
I am full of curiosity
You make a difference in the life of each child
Those who are quiet and those who are wild
The wish to learn is priceless
It’s a gift to you and me
For you do more than teaching
This much is plain to see

The dawn of each poet, each philosopher and king begins with a teacher and the wisdom they bring

A WONDERFUL VISIT BY HG JAI NITAI DASA

Avanti Court was honoured to meet HG Jai Nitai Dasa recently. He led an assembly speaking about the importance of chanting and explored the reasons for chanting. He asked the children why they thought chanting was important to which a pupils replied:

‘Chanting helps us to get closer to Krishna.’ Another child said: ‘Chanting makes God feel happy.’ And another said: ‘ To express our gratitude to Krishna.’

HG Jai Nitai Dasa informed us that he chants because it is fun and that we are all spiritual beings. He informed the children that everyone and everything has life and that when we chant we remember we are all spiritual souls. Our body is a machine, we are all different and that we are the drivers of our machines. He explained to the children that Krishna is with us in our machine.

He asked the children to ask him some questions, which were very interesting : Why does Krishna like peacock feathers? Why is Krishna blue? Who made God for God to make us?



LIFE AT AVANTI...

TALENTED DRUMMERS WOW AVANTI...

Drummers from Avanti Court put on a spectacular performance on: 27th April.

The audience watched in amazement as soloists performed pieces and rhythmic sequences flawlessly!

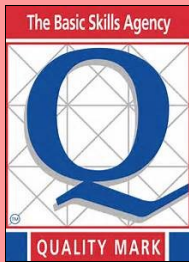
The assembly began and ended with a group performance led by drumming teacher Tim which featured not only drumming but movement too!



BANISH COLDS AND FLUS...

Please remind your children to use a tissue if they have a cold to stop cold germs spreading. Please also remind your child to wash their hands before they eat to keep the bugs at bay!

WE ARE PROUD OF AVANTI BECAUSE...



We are driving standards of numeracy and literacy



We promote British Values across the school



We teach through practical application so learning is fun



We perform music in groups and as soloists

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR A'LEVEL VOLUNTEERS FROM ILFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Avanti Court have been fortunate enough to have a number of A'Level students from Ilford County High who have been supporting learning at Avanti Court. The students asked if they could share their experiences with Avanti Court.

Our names are Shakin and Mahad and we are pupils from Ilford County High School. We are currently studying A'Level Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Economics and Critical Thinking. Both of us from an early age wanted to pursue a career in medicine.

We found that the children of Avanti Court have a willingness to learn and that Avanti Court has created an environment in which children not only further their academic potential but also embed values such as: respect, courage and discipline.

MAD SCIENCE VISITS AVANTI...

Science Week took place across the whole school recently. Children took part in a range of interactive scientific investigations, which were very engaging. The week ended with a fantastic assembly led by Mad Scientists who through demonstrations, taught children about materials and their properties.



FROM DARPNA TANK-SCHOOL GOVERNOR

I am a Parent Governor at Avanti Court Primary School and am the Chair of the Curriculum Committee as well as Link Governor for Numeracy. Part of my role is to regularly visit the school for focused monitoring reviews in addition to attending Governing Body and Curriculum Committee meetings.

Visit 1:

As Numeracy Link Governor, I met with Mrs Makwana, our Numeracy Subject Leader. The meeting was insightful and provided me with a detailed overview of development in Numeracy across the school.

I also attended the weekly Friday Achievements Assembly and was honoured to present the handwriting trophy to the deserved student. It was heart-warming to see so many children's personal achievements being recognised by the entire school.

The key focus of this visit was to undertake a review of the quality of teaching, learning and assessment. I observed learning behaviour in all classes from Nursery through to Year 4 with Mrs Walters. It was wonderful to see children throughout the school engaged, interested, enthusiastic and so well behaved during class. These learning walks together with book reviews, which involves scrutinising a sample of books from each class, as well as conversations with pupils, enables the Governing Body to monitor the quality of teaching, learning and assessment being delivered at ACPS. Mrs Walters and I worked together to identify action points from our findings and it was requested that I return at a later date to review and monitor progress.

Visit 2:

Once again, Mrs Walters and I reviewed and discussed a sample of books from all classes, across the entire school. Overall, both visits were very productive and it was obvious to see that children have great pride not only in their books but also in their behaviour during class. Standards are constantly being reviewed and scrutinised by the Senior Leadership Team, Avanti Schools Trust, Governors and other external bodies to ensure ACPS is striving for continual improvement.

Whilst it is a demanding role, being a Parent Governor is very rewarding; it provides a great insight into the inner mechanics of our school and the sheer effort and team work involved to deliver our children's educational needs.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE...

Talking to your child – openly, and regularly – is the best way to help keep them safe online.

You might find it helpful to start with a family discussion to set boundaries and agree what's appropriate. Or you might need a more specific conversation about an app or website your child wants to use or something you're worried about.

If you're not sure where to start you can always visit the NSPCC online safety helpline for free expert advice.

Talk about what might be ok for children of different ages. Ask your child what sites or apps they like. Write a list, and look at them together.

Talk to your child about what you think is appropriate – but also involve them in the conversation.

WELL DONE...

A huge well done to Mayur, Shayan, Kayan, Ayan, Mitansh, Joshan and Tejas who took part in their first proper cricket match recently and won! Please do share in the success of our Avanti cricketers and I am sure this will be the first of many wins!

The above boys all attend an out of school cricket club.



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 the last two newsletters have informed you of two 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.

As parents, a number of you felt that you did not know enough about how well your children are doing in school. As a result of this concern we now send home half termly targets. Every child has a parent consultation in the Autumn and Spring Term and a full report sent home in the summer term. 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.

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.

Some parents were concerned that the school was not promoting British Values enough. I can confirm that we do this through assemblies, inviting guest speakers into school such as the MP Wes Streeting, through educational visits e.g. National Portrait Gallery, through the curriculum, through newsletters and by celebrating events such as the Queen's reign and of course important British figures such as: Shakespeare. You are more than welcome to look at our British Values portfolio.

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

VALUES...



'A tale for those who have more important things to pay attention to' A piece of writing exploring our values by Aanya in Year 3

I think this statement means that we are too busy focusing on our work. We have all turned into selfless machines from working every day. We have stopped noticing things which are far more important, like taking care of our children and making time for their studies.

Nobody even says hello on the tube anymore. Did you ever notice the traffic jam on the streets at 8am in the morning? Of course not! You are too busy focusing on your work.

The streets are filled with hustle-bustle-robots who just scurry along. Would you even notice if you dropped your purse on the way to work, would anybody pick it up or would they just run over it?

Instead of paying attention to work, we should pay more attention to God. Money can't buy everything.

It is true that it can buy shelter, clothes, food and water, but it can't buy happiness or friendship.

You can't buy *that* with money. You can only buy happiness with spirituality and love.

PARKING CONCERNS...

A number of pupils have expressed their concerns over the parking in Carlton Drive and in Craven Gardens. Three pupils last week said that they felt very unsafe walking home from school due to the number of cars turning, reversing and parking outside school.

Please listen to our children and park further away from the school.

Local residents have also complained to the borough recently, which reflects negatively on our school.