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### Reflection.....

Dear Parents/Carers.

## 'Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into practice'

Looking through my diary I found the above quote today which made me reflect on my own abilities as a leader, where we were a few weeks ago and how far we have come. If I were honest I would have to say that leadership is not just about the capacity to translate a vision into practice, - which sounds very grand. I believe the very core of leadership is about making others realise that you can not do it alone; it is our ability to work together and to get others to see, that while we are busy mixing the paints, it is possible to visualise the end product—the actual painting - which can sometimes be the most difficult task for us all'. With this in mind and our children holding the paint brushes, I asked one of the

pupils—can you see the painting for all the mixing of the paints that is going on in the school? The reply was exactly what one would want as a leader and was as follows: 'I can see the picture Mrs Edwards for our

school and it is the best place in the world'. My instant response was 'Gosh, that's a very tall order!" but I just looked at this little girl and wondered, what she would say next! She looked me straight in the eye and said...'Don't worry, Mrs Edwards, we will help you' and this is exactly what the pupils have done! Therefore, taking this

very wise little girl's

comments on board

things are not

and acknowledging that

absolutely perfect, I can

categorically say that

none of what we want to achieve for our children is possible, if we do not leave the old painting to one side and begin to imagine the new picture for Krishna Avanti—which WILL be the best place in the world if we all work together!

Thank you for your support, guidance and dedication to our school in my first few weeks—it is greatly appreciated.

Mrs Pauline Edwards



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#### DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Book Fair—5th–9th Nov
- Dress- Up Day-7th Nov
- Parents' Assemblies
   – 9th Nov Diwali
   Celebrations
- Diwali Event FOKAS-10th Nov
- INSET School Closed for Pupils 13th Nov
- Religious Observance (school closed)
   14th November
- Parent Drop-in night—26th Nov
- School Photographs—28th Nov
- Admissions Open Evening for New Nursery and Reception Intake: 29th Nov
- Celebrating Success Assembly 10th
   Dec
- Xmas Production—I3th Dec

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

### What are we focusing on:

- \* The differences in achievement between girls and boys in Phonics and in KSI literacy, numeracy and science.
- \* Raising standards for our more able pupils.
- \*How our summer born children perform, compared to others.



### Our pupils and friends......

- \* I have had a number of meetings with the Student Council and the group is now in full swing and extremely vocal! We recently visited Avanti House School to meet their Student Council and this visit was extremely beneficial for the pupils. It has definitely paved the way to working in partnership with our sister school well into the future.
- \* Our pupils will be fully involved in our School Improvement Plan process, they will also assist with evaluating the leadership and management of the school on a termly basis challenging thought for us all!
- \* A big 'Thank you ' to FOKAS who work tirelessly for the school and our pupils, and to Avanti House Staff for their patience, support, their flexibility and smiling faces!

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# School Improvement - your feedback and action required....

### Behaviour for Learning and Anti-Bullying Policies (with associated staff guidance)

You will all receive a copy of our new Behaviour for Learning and Anti-Bullying Polices via ParentMail and if you require hard copies please do feel free to pop into the school next week and pick up a copy from the office. These policies have been ratified by Governors and agreed with the pupils and our staff and we would very much appreciate any comments or suggestions from parents/carers.

The key changes are as follows:

- We want a consistent approach towards behaviour and anti-bullying procedures, which is owned by the pupils and staff and encourages character development and spiritual awareness in the form of self-ownership and self-regulation.
- ♦ Behaviour for Learning:

From Nursery through to Year 3: There will be 5 Golden School Standards and a card system on each classroom wall, Pupils will come in and be given a green card in a pocket with their name and picture on it. The emphasis will be for each child to hold onto their green card. If the pupil does not follow the Golden Standards, they will be given an amber card in their pocket and there will be a consequence to that behavior. (consequences will be agreed with each class group and will be based on a community pay back system i.e. if you remove something from your community you have to pay something back). If pupils continue not to follow the Golden Standards, they will given a red card with a further consequence to their actions. If they are spotted 'being good' or have exceeded the golden standards (i.e. in their work, behaviour or attitude), they will be given a GOLD card in their pocket. There will be rewards and motivators at a both a classroom and whole school level and this will be in many forms e.g. stickers, post-cards home, golden time where they can choose a favourite activity.

- From Year 4 onwards there will be a token system as the children have requested this, This will be based on similar strategies, However, the aim will be for the pupils to hold onto as many tokens in their new Home School Books as possible.
- The number of red cards will be tracked and monitored by classroom staff and this information will be looked at on a weekly basis by the Inclusion Manager via our new LABS meeting, which will link behaviour patterns to attendance, safeguarding and learning. Support and/or interventions will be put in for specific students as and when required. This may not be in the form of 1:1 support; however, it may be with respect to the staff making alterations within the classroom environment to support the pupil in modifying their behaviour. It may also be in the form of small group work i.e. nurture groups, catch up groups for core areas such as literacy and numeracy, anger management, speech and language development.

### Home School Books-something new and raising the bar!

After half-term all pupils will receive a consistent approach towards Home School communications and this will be in the form of our new Home School Books, which will vary slightly for Year 4 upwards at the pupils' request. These books will act as a two way form of communication between home and school and teachers will write formal comments in these books at the end of each week, Various other pieces of information will also be contained within these books. We will evaluate the success of these books after Christmas.

## Next half-term - watch out for: a parent/carer questionnaire about our school and.....

- ♦ Anti-Bullying Roadshow Alliance
- ♦ Gifted and Talented workshops including Royal Courts of Justice Visit / Theatre of Law Project
- Parent Workshops—watch out for the dates as we will cover the following: Behaviour for Learning, Phonics, Behaviour Management, Special Educational Needs, Writing, Reading and much much more!
- ♦ Chance to Shine—Educating through Cricket Programme
- ♦ Year 4 School Journey to France for 4 nights (3rd—7th December)
- ♦ Our extra activities and half term clubs (Week I Crazee Kids and Week 2 Sports Camp)
  - Teacher drop-in / Parent immersion programme

Keep an eye on the parent notice board / Parent Mail, as this will have important information that we want to share with you all.

Free School Meals
PLEASE do see the office if
you think you are entitled to
Free School Meals, as this
generates extra funding for
the school, which is greatly
needed.

#### Future Newsletters.....

I intend to write this form of a newsletter every half-term, which will also be accompanied by a specific classroom newsletters and in the very near future, a Student Council update.

### Uniform

Gentle Reminder: Pullens have our new uniform in stock; could all parents/carers please ensure that all pupils have the correct uniform by the time our school photographs are taken on 28th November. If you do have any difficulties, please do contact me by email on

Pauline.edwards@avanti.org.uk. Many thanks.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

98% AND OVER IS OUR TARGET - KEEP UP THE EXCELLENT WORK AND MANY THANKS FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS WITH ENSURING YOUR CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL REGULARLY